

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Sixth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



समर्थेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, May 4, 1993/Vaisakha 14, 1915
(Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

WELCOME TO THE NEPALESE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the Hon'ble Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Daman Nath Dhungana, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Nepal and Mrs. Bhuvan Dhungana and the Hon'ble Members of the Nepalese Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honored guests.

The other Hon'ble members of the Delegation are:-

1. Mr. Taranath Ranavat, MP
2. Mrs. Lila Koriala, MP
3. Mr. Chandra Prakash Mainali, MP
4. Mr. Bharat Mohan Adhikari, MP
5. Mr. Hridayesi Tripathi, MP
6. Mr. Dalsingh Kami, MP

7. Mr. Narayan Man Bijukchhe, MP
8. Mr. Bhim Bahadur Shrestha, MP
9. Mr. Uddabdev Bhatta, MP

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 2 May, 1993 evening. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Majesty The King, prime Minister, Parliament, Government and the friendly people of the Kingdom of Nepal.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

+

Female Literacy

- * 861. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO:
DR. D. VENKATESWARARAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) the percentage of participation of girls at primary, middle and higher education stages in the country, state-wise;

(b) whether the female literacy rate is still low in India;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government have conducted any Survey of those states where literacy rate amongst females is less than the national average;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the female literacy rate in those states?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) A statement showing percentage of girls; enrollment at Primary, middle and higher education stages in the country is given in Annexure.

(b) to (e): Literacy rates by areas and sex are collected all over the country in the decennial census. According to 1991 census, national

female literacy rate is 39.29 percent compared to 64.13 per cent for males. Female literacy rates are lower than the national average in the states/UTs of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan. The low female literacy rate is a result of several socio economic and historic factors which handicap women's participation in the education system.

(f): The steps taken by the Government to increase female literacy rate in the country include measures to achieve universalisation of Elementary Education (UEE) with stress on girls' education and adult education programmes through the National Literacy Mission (NLM) with focus on female literacy. The NLM aims at imparting functional literacy to 80 million illiterates in the 15-35 age group by 1995. The dominant strategy under the Mission is the Total Literacy Campaigns (TLCs). So far TLC have been sanctioned in 189 districts and post Literacy Campaigns in 66 districts.

ANNEXURE

Percentage of Girls Enrolment to total enrolment (1991-92)

S.No.	States/UTs	Primary Education I-V	Middle Education VI-VII	Higher Education@
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42.88	37.51	29.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.75	39.33	19.84
3.	Assam	46.84	42.50	29.94
4.	Bihar	33.96	27.74	20.156
5.	Goa	47.69	46.17	49.92
6.	Gujarat	42.87	40.03	41.42
7.	Haryana	44.92	38.38	35.15
8.	Himachal Pradesh	46.38	43.16	32.10
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	39.98	36.70	38.55
10.	Karnataka	46.83	41.08	30.09
11.	Kerala	48.66	48.86	51.87
12.	Madhya Pradesh	40.95	31.17	29.82

S.No.	States/UTs	Primary Education I-V	Middle Education VI-VII	Higher Education @
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Maharashtra	46.39	40.95	33.00
14.	Manipur	45.76	46.20	39.84
15.	Meghalaya	48.46	46.74	39.92
16.	Mizoram	47.36	48.00	31.35
17.	Nagaland	46.83	48.36	32.71
18.	Orissa	40.76	36.15	26.60
19.	Punjab	46.04	42.68	53.19
20.	Rajasthan	30.73	24.38	25.18
21.	Sikkim	46.41	47.94	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	46.17	43.01	39.43
23.	Tripura	45.19	42.79	36.86
24.	Uttar Pradesh	35.19	30.57	24.29
25.	West Bengal	42.71	42.46	40.70

S.No.	States/UTs	Primary Education I-V	Middle Education VI-VII	Higher Education [@]
1	2	3	4	5
26.	A&N Islands	47.36	45.29	46.20
27.	Chandigarh	46.63	45.99	49.25
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	40.66	36.28	-
29.	Daman & Diu	47.25	45.10	35.96
30.	Delhi	46.65	44.69	41.79
31.	Lakshadweep	46.10	43.46	-
32.	Pondicherry	47.57	46.00	41.00
	India	41.70	37.73	32.53

Source: Selected Educational Statistics-1991-92

[@] = Includes enrolment of professional higher education also.

SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO: Sir, the Minister has stated that low female literacy is a result of several socio-economic and historic factors which handicap women's participation in the education system. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government is taking to remove the hindrances of several socio-economic and historical factors?

KUMARI SELJA: This is a joint programme of both the Central Government and the states. In some of the states, education has already been made free for girls up to class plus two level and they also offer some scholarships, incentives like free uniforms, text books etc.

From the Center level also, we are trying to do a lot in this direction. Our programme of action under the National Policy on education says, the problem of universalisation of elementary education is in essence the problem of the girl child.

I would like to point out that under our scheme of Operation Blackboard, we want that out of two teachers recruited for each school, one of them should be a woman.

It means fifty per cent. But as of now, I would like to inform the hon. Member that out of 69,926 teachers that we have, about 57.39 per cent are women which is more than 50 per cent that we want. We have number of projects in states especially like Rajasthan which has a low female literacy rate. We have a programme called *Shiksha karmi* in which at the local level, at the village level, we are recruiting two *Shiksha karmis*. They are recruited by the local authorities themselves. Apart from this, we have other schemes also. Under the Non-formal Education. The ratio of girls centers to co-educational is being increased from 25:75 to 40:60. The Central assistance to girls Centres is provided in the ratio of 90:10 as compared to 50:50 for co-educational Centres. In this also out of the total of 2.45 lakh Centres, we have already about 82,000 Centres for girls. In our Navodaya Vidyalayas also girls enrolment is more than

28% the total enrollment we have reserved 28.44 per cent seats for girls. We are also making special efforts in the field of vocational education. Also, in our total literacy campaign, our thrust is towards women's education. Our impression is that, though we do not really have complete figures, we are getting very good response and at times, even better in the case of female than male.

SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO: May I know from the Minister whether there is a scheme to provide financial assistance to the brilliant outstanding female students for their performance in the extra-curricular activities in schools, colleges and universities? Secondly, what is the criteria for the selection of the eligible students and what is the number of students benefited in the last year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): We have a number of incentive schemes and there are some for women and some for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. In these schemes, sections represented by these students get an advantage. I would not be really able to tell you the figures of last year. But I can inform the hon. Member subsequently.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: According to the Minister's statement, the female literacy rate is much lower than the national average. When you compare the urban with rural, the rural female rate is very much low, at least ten to 15 per cent when compared to the urban literacy rate which is around 40 per cent. What steps are being taken to rectify this defect? Secondly, in respect of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes the literacy rate of women is about 10.93 and 3.46 per cent respectively. What steps are being taken by the Government to rectify this? At the same time, how many programmes have been announced by the Government which are not yielding good results. The socio-economic development of the women is more important in the development of women literacy. In such case, I would like to

know whether the Government is contemplating to formulate equal rights in property of the women as well as 30 per cent reservation in jobs - and university for women, which is being established in some states. I would like to know whether any such type of activity is there or not.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Most of the efforts in the field of universalisation of elementary education is in the rural sector. The cumulative impact of the scheme which my esteemed colleague has just informed the House, is oriented towards female literacy. And naturally, the rural sector will attract the utmost attention both financially and programmatically.

And I am sure, this state of affairs which is causing coucern to all of us will improve in the near future.

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Mr. speaker, Sir, I would like to know, whether the Government have any proposal, to set up Navodaya Vidyalayas exclusively for girls, at least one in every district in those states where the women literacy rate is less than the national average.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: There is no proposal to set up a separate Navodaya school for girls. But scheme provides for greater enrolment of girls. Already girls enrolment is more than 28% of the total enrolment. They will also be taken care of in our non-formal education programmes which has just been announced. We have 82000 NFE Centres exclusively for girls in the country. I am sure, as I have just said, this is not a problem which should be taken in isolation and should not be dealt in solution. This is a problem which is there and we have to talk all the measures including some social-economic measures which ultimately empower women and create access to education as and where it is required, in the manner it should be.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Mr. Speaker,

Sir, the reply made by the hon. Minister reveals that the female literacy rate in Bihar and Rajasthan - the states where the majority of people are still superstitions and orthodox, is very low. The major consideration of the People is the lack of their capability to arrange lodging in the towns to send their girls for studies there. Parents will certainly send their girls for studies if arrangements for girl hostels in colleges and city centres are made available in the states where the female literacy rate is low. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether arrangements of girl-hostels would be made available at least on district-level in those states where the people of aforesaid mentality are living in large number?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do accept the lack of facility of education for the people who are superstitious and orthodox. but it is the responsibility of all of us to fight out superstitions....(Interruptions)

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Who are spreading it?...(Interruptions)

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I am not connected about that since it is not a political issue. Superstition is superstition and it may be anywhere....(Interruptions) whosoever is spreading it, is doing wrong. I can say this much only...(Interruptions)

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: The people of Janata dal are ahead of all in spreading superstition...(Interruptions)

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Uma ji, please you should not go into it...(Interruptions)

KUMARI UMA BHARTI*.....The persons who are largely associated with it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Name will not go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Here I am making a reply regarding Education and you are deviating me to speak out about Swamis. How is it possible...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: He does not get the food digested in absence of Swamis...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Which Swami are you associated with?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I am not associated with any Swami...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: If you look around you even here, you will find several Swamis here as well....*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: There is one Moni Baba in your neighborhood and the other Moni Baba is from Ujjain....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the suggestion regarding making the provision of lodging for the girl Students seeking higher education is connected, there are, already girl hostels in colleges and universities, nevertheless the Government should consider the suggestion of constructing such hostels on district level and that would perhaps be a proper step.

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Mr. Speaker Sir the hon. Minister has attached an annexe along with his reply. It reveals that after the primary Education there is a gradual decline in percentage of girls enrolment at Middle and Higher levels of Education respectively. The reason probably remain that parents living in villages do not like to send their girls to boys' Schools. I would like to ask whether the hon. Minister will make a provision in the Eight Five Year plan to open separate high schools for girls and whether the Government would also make such a provision as their financial condition may

improve and they may help themselves financially by earning while learning, that will help them to continue their studies and people will not have any difficulty in providing high education to their girls.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, providing education upto the High School level is the responsibility of the state Governments and some of them are making efforts in the direction. But so far as the question of importing certain training to students to enable them to earn while learning is concerned it behoves of the very basic objective of vocational education. Several special provisions have been made under the policy of vocational education for children in different states. The co-educationalisation programme being run at national level do also have a separate component for women and efforts are being made to broaden the base of this component as extensively as possible.

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I think that it not only in relation to non-formal education, but also in relation to improvements in formal education that girls' problems should be seen. One finds in the answer that significantly in those states which have literacy rates lower than the national average there is a significant drop in the rate of enrolment where the girl students reach the stage of middle education, that is from 6th to 8th standard. The reasons for this is just not economical, but also social particularly the prejudices that many parents have regarding sending girl children to the same school as boys and being taught by male teachers. In this respect I would like to know whether the Government would provide enough resources for providing enough separate secondary schools for girls in these areas where the literacy rate is lower than the national average.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I have said that providing such schools is basically the area in which the state Governments have to take action. We have been making attempts to provide

female teachers because that removes to some extent the inhibition of parents to send girls to schools. If there are female teachers then I think that removes to some extent the inhibition.

The resources crunch, as the hon. Member is quite aware, is one of the great limiting factors. Therefore it is not possible for me to make an announcement as desired by here. There is another way in which we are trying to intensify the effort in the rural areas, specially in these states where the literacy rate is very low. We have now taken a District Primary Education Programme, which takes care of the entire primary education in the area. One of these programmes has already been started implementation in UP which would be financed by the World Bank. Districts in other states like MP, Haryana, Assam, Orissa, Tamilnadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra also have a low percentage of literacy. There also we are trying to involve this strategy. I am sure, in the coming months this will be institutionalized and we will be able to give a fillip to the primary education at least in all these states where the percentage is very low.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: May I know through you from the hon. Minister as to what attempts have been made by the state Governments of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan where the female literacy rates are comparatively lower to mobilize the non-governmental organisations in literacy mission. If there are no non-governmental organisations in any of these states, then what attempts have been made to mobilise Mahila Mandals?

May I know whether there is a monitoring system in the states as well as in the Centre, of this national literacy campaign?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I have pointed out the attempts being made in these states. The specific involvement of NGOs in this effort occupies a very prominent place in our

programme of action and that there is some difficulty in these states to identify such organisational but the mahila mandals as the hon. Member has pointed out could fill in, to some extent, this requirement. Now, my impression, on the basis of what we have been doing, is that a lot of NGOs and especially the women are coming forward to get involved in the literacy campaign and also in the non-formal educational programme. I think, the inhabitation that was there has been overcome to a very large extent and many very convenient that by the end of the Eighth Plan, we will be making some significant progress in the area of female literacy. 'Monitoring' is a part of it.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Sir, to give equal status to women in the society, UNO has celebrated the year 1975 as the International Women's Year (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, let this not be a monopoly of women: (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Sir, you may see that even if a little preference is given, there is a cry for equal chance. Nobody is ready to look after to see what happens to women in the society at large. That is exactly the point in question here. I really appreciate the work that is being done by the Government; but, at the same time, much remains to be done and that is what I wanted to say.

The year 1975 was celebrated as the International Women's year, to give equal status to women; and a lot of efforts are being done. But, it is necessary that we must change the attitude of the young children right from their childhood, to look at the girls as their equal parts.

Our society, particularly the Indian society is such that the girls are not treated as equal, even by the ladies in the houses. So, we will have to change this attitude. Just now, there was a talk of 'andhashraddha' and all these things. We will

have to remove these taboos in the mind of the Indian traditional society and we have to give equal status to girls in the Primary schools. Is there any attempt by the Government to bring in lessons for the children right from the primary stage to educate them, that the girls in the house are equal to the boys? So, there is a process of learning also which we have to take, while we teach the students. Is the Government going to take all these steps?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I am very grateful to the hon. Member for the very pointed attention that she has drawn to this issue in which the classrooms are not so important, but the general approach in society is much more important. This is where, I think, each one of us in our own limited way, has to play a part; and sensitisation of the issue about the equality of girls, not only starts obviously first in the family but when they go out into the schools; there has to be a very concerted approach that they are equally entitled to the benefits of the school system. In that, the Government definitely has a role to play; and the NCERT has produced some books, some lessons. At the same time, the plan of action which this House is already aware of in the National Policy of Education gives very special attention to their aspect and I can assure the hon. Member that this is a matter to which we attach the highest importance. We only need the cooperation of all parents and all citizens, if we want to make this effort to succeed.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Suseela Gopalan.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Just now we discussed as to how to change the attitudes.

SHRINIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The male Member should be allowed to improve like that. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Sir, where the female literacy is less than 10 per

cent, will the Government consider the question of giving a cash incentive to parents and also beginning more classes in those backward areas?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: It is a suggestion which has been made. I will try to look at it.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 70-75 years ago Bhagwat Singhji belonging to Gandal Tehsil of Saurashtra was there in the Bapu Gandal Darbar. He made women education compulsory. I would like to know whether the Government has paid its attention towards the increasing tendency of making education as a business. There are several voluntary organisations and fake institutions running in the country. I would like to know whether the attention of the government has been drawn to it or not. Whether the Government propose to put a check on such institutions from becoming professional and whether the Government propose to make female education compulsory in the Eighth Five Year plan.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir it is a bit difficult to think at the moment to make female education compulsory.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What about Primary Education?

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA: When other issues can be taken into consideration then why not issue relating to girls can be considered?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: There should be an encouragement in this regard, so that the maximum number of willing persons can get the education. The suggestion that the Government should have a monitoring system to avoid misuse of funds being provided to such institutions, is a good thing and the Government will pay full attention to it....*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, some persons are getting jealous of me because today I am getting good suggestions from the hon. Lady Members.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has said that D.A. Cs and N.G. os would be entrusted with the work of extending the National literacy Mission. The hon. Minister has informed all the hon. Members in 1991 through writing letters to them that a separate arrangement to provide education to female would be made and that he was much concerned about that. He had further submitted that hostel facility for girls would be made available on at least district level, if not on village level. I would like to ask whether the hon. Minister is reminded of that letter or not. He said that socioeconomic and historical factors are to be held responsible for that. So keeping all these things into consideration will the Government provide such educational facility which could be accessible to girls.

One more thing has been said about historic factor which I would like to cite though it may sound a bit irrelevant. Marriages of minors were solemnised in your neighboring state on the occasion of *Akha Teez* and the Government did not do anything in this regard. I ask whether the Government would take some concrete steps to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Vajpayeeji is not helping me today... (*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am fully reminded of the letter that has been referred to by the hon. Member but the question is not of the letter, the Government is worried about it and the said letter was written due to that reason. You should be rest assured that the Government will take all possible steps to ensure education for female with the help of whatever resources are available with the Government.

I cannot say much about the progress made by the state Governments in this regard. The social conventions like Child marriage etc. Can be done away with through awareness and lit-

eracy campaign. Many such questions cannot be solved through the Department of Education. As I have said earlier that everybody has to continue his might and only then would be able to solve these problems.

[*English*]

Privatisation of textbooks

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* 862. SHRI RABI RAY:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Need to review Privatisation of textbooks" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated April 12, 1993;

(b) whether state Education Boards have assigned printing and distribution of books to private publishers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether NCERT has failed to meet the demand of various books, particularly in regional languages; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a): Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the National Curricular Framework and revised syllabi and textbooks brought out by the NCERT, the states have also undertaken measures of preparation of new school textbooks for introduction into their school system in a phased manner. The printing and distribution of the textbooks are carried out by

the concerned state level agencies as per their own arrangement.

(d) According to the information received from the NCERT, there is no shortage of its textbooks. The NCERT does not publish opt textbooks in Regional languages but gives copyright permission to the state level agencies interested in bringing out the Regional Language editions of NCERT textbooks.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: MR. Speaker, Sir, a lobby is working in a systematic way for the Privatisation of text books in the country. We get complaints regarding getting text book published through the private publishers. In this connection I would like to say that NCERT is moving towards Privatisation of publications whereas there is shortage of text books published by NCERT. Has the Central Government given suggestions to the state Government for improvement in this regard? If so, please give the details.

KUMARI SELJA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have told earlier that for this purpose states make arrangement through state level agencies. So far as the publishing is concerned, states do it on their own and for printing they give it to private agencies. Even N.C.E.R.T and many states do not have their own printing press. They get it done on contractual basis from the private agencies.

SHRI RABI RAY: I have got this information that editorial work is also assigned to the private sector. I would like to know whether it is true that editing work is also assigned to private parties in the states?

KUMARI SELJA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have full information regarding the process being adopted by the states in this regard. It will take some time to collect this information.

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government always finds it difficult to reply to such questions. The Government should clarify the position. I am saying it because there are 16 crore children studying in the schools. The schools directly under the control of the Central Government might be less in numbers. If Central Government does not provide right information, then we find it difficult to asking more questions in this regard. That is why I am asking. We are not getting satisfactory reply.....

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Actually it is not like this. We do not have any information that in some states editing is also given to private hands because this task is mainly dealt by the Boards of state Governments, therefore, without getting any first hand information from them we are unable to reply to your question.

SHRI RABI RAY: The reply given to part (b) of the question says:

[English]

"The NCERT does not publish its text books in Regional languages but gives copyright permission to the state level agencies interested in bringing out the Regional language editions of NCERT textbooks.

[Translation]

I would like to know the position regarding NCERT. Do you also get complaints that it does not provide text books to the children in time. The Director General of NCERT himself admitted that this delay is caused because 95 per cent of the manuscripts are not in accordance with the syllabus. There is a lot of backlog. Has the situation improved now? Besides, what has the Government to say about the non-availability of the books?

KUMARI SELJA: Text books are made available on time. There is no problem in this regard.

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: After three months, the students get textbooks.

[Translation]

KUMARI SELJA: There is no problem, we supply on the basis of projection. The projection is based on the affiliated schools of C.B.S.E. Other schools, which are not affiliated with C.B.S.E., also proscribe these books. We cannot restrict our supply to the C.B.S.E. affiliated schools only. Others also purchase these books and because of that the books are sometimes in short supply.

SHRI RABI RAY: Those who sell N.C.E.R.T. Books...

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: You are asking four supplementary question.

SHRI RABI RAY: You may complain to the hon. Speaker. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: This cannot be allowed like this.

MR. SPEAKER: No. Mr. Patil, please take your seat. You don't have to guide the House. I am using my discretion.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: I am in Parliament since last fifteen years.

MR. SPEAKER: You may be there.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: I am bringing to your kind notice that near a senior Member had been allowed to raise five supplementary questions.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. Please take your seat. You shall have to take your seat. You don't have to guide me.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: I am saying it because, Shri J.P. Gupta, who has taken responsibility for its sale has said;

[English]

'No NCERT textbooks, are available with me. Some 10-20 copies tittles were supplied to me by the distributors. These books were sold in no time.'

[Translation]

This is what the sellers say. The hon. Minister of state is saying something else. She should not give a stereo-tuned reply. The officers of the Ministry generally give evasive replies I had asked about the NCERT books.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: NCERT, She has explained.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, education is a concurrent subject. The NCERT has to play a role. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, don't disturb him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: I should be heard at least now. When there are laughters going on like this.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: It is a language of laughter.

MR. SPEAKER: The language of laughter is not known to many of us.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: NCERT's role is not only placing the number of textbooks or prescribing the number of textbooks but also to see what is the text in them, what is the

proptation which is being printed for proper education.

It has been observed that in some States the facts of history subject are twisted. Twisting of acts should be taken note of by NCERT. *(Interruptions)* Has the Government of India taken note of this fact because in some State if the children are not taught properly all facts, then their education will not be proper and there will be some serious consequences about that.

I urge upon the Minister to ask the NCERT to look into this matter also.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: As far as I am aware, no NCERT's textbook contains any such material. It, however, has been brought to the notice of the NCERT and the Government that certain textbooks being prescribed in the States do contain material which is undesirable.

A National Steering Committee has been set up in the NCERT which continuously monitors the textbooks in the country; and wherever such thing occurs, suitable advice is given to the States that they should correct those imbalances or improper references.

Recently, a meeting of the Education Secretaries and Ministers was held and a plan of action has been drawn up so that wherever such things occur, they should be taken care immediately in the States. I am quite assured that this thing will not happen now; and if and whenever it does happen, we will be able to devise a machinery to check it very promptly.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has admitted that the books are in short supply but actually people do not get books at all. The people purchase books from the authorised as well as unauthorised publishers. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister that unauthorised publishers are selling books at cheaper rates than those sold by

the authorised publishers? Has this point come to your notice earlier? Before you say 'no' to it, I want to tell you that last year also I raised this question and Shri P.R. Kumar Monngalam had said that information was being collected and it would be supplied as soon as it is available. Till date I have not received any information in this regard. What action have you taken against the unauthorised publishers who are selling books at cheaper rates than that of N.C.E.R.T.?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no shortage of N.C.E.R.T. books except in the situations described by the Deputy Minister. We have not said that there is shortage of books in any state. How can we say like this here, when it is the responsibility of State Governments and their boards, so far as your question concerned that N.C.E.R.T. books are being published in authorised by sold at cheaper rates we will certainly take initiatives if you provided us any information in this regard..

PROF. PREMDHUMAL: If you know about it, you should take action in this regard.

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: You cannot get into an open fact. There has to be some specific information

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Everybody knows about it except the Government.

[English]

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: In Tamilnadu, there is a very famous printing company by the name Jaya Publication.

The Tamil Nadu Text Book Society. *(Interruptions)*

The Tamil Nadu Government has placed

the order and they are capable of printing and supplying the books in time. It is a very famous company. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is ready to direct the NCERT to place orders on Jaya Publications to get the books in time.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: There is no problem, for us to get our books wherever they are being printed. (*Interruptions*)

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Why is he unnecessarily mixing up these things.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a specific question. Is it a fact that the hon. Minister had called a meeting of the Education Ministers of States and a few experts about six weeks ago? The meeting was convened to ponder over and discuss alleged inclusion of some distorted facts and some material, that is not on the national interest, in textbooks in a few States. I would like to specifically submit that the present Education Advisor of Governor of Uttar Pradesh, had come to the meeting with specific proof regarding distortion of facts at the time of the previous Government. What decision has the Government taken in this regard and whether orders have been issued for the deletion of such things from textbooks?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir I myself had made a reference to that when I said that the meeting was convened and a decision was taken to delete distorted facts about which specific proofs were presented. We would ensure after deliberation that no such situation emerges in future.

Oil spill in Bay of Bengal

*863. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the assessment of damage to marodline life and environment caused by the spies in the Bay of Bengal has been made;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether claims for compensation for the economic and ecological damage suffered and for the money spent on mapping operations has been lodged against the Dutch Oil Tanker owner;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The research vessel, "Sager Kanya of the Department of Ocean Development with the scientists of the National Institute of Oceanography, Goron board, had undertaken surveys of marine life and environment to collect samples at the area of the oil spill. A second cruise is also planned to study the long-term effects on marine life.

(c) to (e). Claims for compensation for the economic and ecological damage in monetary terms can be made only after detailed scientific analysis of the data which is to be collected by the second cruise of the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa. Insofar as mapping operations are concerned, assessment of expenditure on this account has been provisionally made by the Cost Guard and the Department of Ocean Development which comes to Rs. 13,62,60,329/-.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the first such incidence in the Bay of Bengal and probably the Ministry of Environment of the Government of India was not geared to meet such an eventuality to minimise the loss and ensure speedy action. To make good the loss whether the Government of India has taken up the matter with the Dutch Govern-

ment? Has any action been taken against the Dutch company, whose oil tanker caused oil spill and extensive damage? The hon. Minister, who is well versed in making calculations, has given assessment of expenditure which come to Rs. 13, 62, 60, 329. I would like know the basis of such an assessment?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: It is wrong on the part of the hon. Member to allege that appropriate action was not taken because the accident took place on the 21st and the Coast Guard started action on the next day. Coast Guard carried out spraying from 22nd January to 6th February. The oil spill was so serious that it spread for miles, spreading up to just 10 miles from Nicobar coast. Some stretches of oil spill were 20 to 30 miles long. I myself inspected the spill. I think it is wrong on the part of the hon. Member to make such an assertion that the Coast Guard had not shouldered its responsibility. Rather, it should be praised for it.

As far as the claim is concerned, we have worked out a tentative claim that covers administrative expenses, coordination expenses and mobilisation expenses and it is an interim claim. It is definitely not a full claim. Legal experts have informed the Government that under section 327 of the Merchant Shipping Act we can make full compensatory claim. At present full claim is being assessed and as soon as it is finalized, full claim will be filed by the Government. The claim is being worked out by the Ministry of Surface Transport because in accordance with the 'Maritime Convention' the responsibility lies on this Ministry.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: The Ministry of Surface Transport is also a Ministry of the Government of India. Does the hon. Minister intend to impress upon us that it is the responsibility of another Ministry and there is no coordination between his Ministry and that Ministry? If it is so, then the hon. Minister should tell us the action taken in this matter till date since January by his Ministry? And whether the Government of India took up the matter with the Dutch Gov-

ernment?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: There is complete coordination among the various Ministries of the Government. It is not so as the hon. Member is saying.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Please inform us the action taken by them?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I am coming to that. I would like to inform the hon. Member that scientists abroad the vessel 'Sagar Kanya' of the National Institute of Oceanography of the Department of Ocean Development Surveyed 6m 400 kms. of the areas from 28th January to 13th February and the detailed analysis is being made. A notice has been served on the Dutch Company by the Director General Shipping.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Regarding survey I would like to know whether:-

[English]

Are you equipped? Are you equipped for this? Tell me, very frankly, Mr. Minister.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: We are equipped. Our scientists are next to nobody.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: It is not a reflection on our scientists, it is not a reflection on our Coast Guards. Are you equipped for doing this?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: One vessel, *Sager Kenya* had sailed first. They said that they had taken samples of the water. They have taken all the necessary samples required from the affected area. These are being examined in details.

A second vessel, *Gaveshni* is sailing out very shortly for further study. My Ministry has written to the Fisheries Development Commissioner of the Ministry of Agriculture to assess the loss of the fisheries as a result of the oil spill

and they have made a rough estimate that the loss of fisheries would be about Rs. 15 cores as a result of reduction in fish catch which is estimated to be about 15,000 tonnes per year.

At the same time on the basis of the data already collected by the vessel which sailed out earlier and the National Institute of Oceanography, which was done in the first round it was revealed that the Great Channel of the Car Nicobar Island is now free from all effects of the oil spill. The zoo plantations and all forms of plant population on which the fish breeds is quite healthy.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: It is mentioned that the Government can claim compensation under the environmental clause. I want to know whether the Government has got any such system or method of claiming compensation for the loss of marine life, fisheries, etc. and damages to the environment due to letting out some distillery effluents from the influenced factory owners into the drinking water resources and world renowned lakes like Kolleru in Andhra Pradesh, which was brought to his notice.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not relevant.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not the first time that such oil slick has taken place in the Bay of Bengal. On other occasions, such incidents took place. And it is a matter that if our coast guards could have been well equipped, the tanker could have been apprehended. But that has not been done. In view of this, may I know from the hon. Minister whether this fact has been highlighted to the ASEAN countries, at least to SAARC countries, for taking remedial measures?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, it is not correct that adequate action was not being taken. I am repeatedly emphasising it because this was our first major encounter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may emphasise but you need not repeat it.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, it has been repeatedly commented upon. So I consider it necessary to correct the fact.

Sir, adequate steps have been taken. The hon. Member's question is concerned with as to what we are doing and what we will do in future. Several coordination meetings have been held. A multi institutional programme for systematic monitoring of the coastal water against pollution is there. This is not a singular effort. This is a continuing effort.

Cancellation of Trains

*864. **SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger trains are canceled every year to meet the freight targets;

(b) if so, the number of passenger trains canceled during each of the last three years in each zone; and

(c) the reasons for not being asked to meet the freight targets necessitating the cancellation of passenger trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) In order to meet additional demand of freight traffic during the peak season, sometimes a few passenger trains are suspended for making available additional locomotives. This period also happens to be a lean season for passenger traffic.

(b) In 1990-91, 41 pairs of passenger trains were suspended to conserve diesel oil in the context of Gulf War. In 1991-92, 25 pairs were suspended to carry the peak season freight

traffic. In 1992-93 no train was suspended on this account.

(c) There is peak seasons when more locomotives are required to meet the demand of freight traffic. The suspension of passenger trains to release additional locomotives is, therefore, related to the peak season traffic so that over the year maximum quantum of freight traffic is lifted. It is not related to the achievements of the annual target. Similarly in summer season goods locomotives are taken to run summer passenger specials.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, cancellation of passenger trains is quite unfortunate. Sir, every time when the question is asked, the Ministry comes up with different replies.

In reply given by the hon. Minister today, he has stated that during the peak seasons some passenger trains are suspended for making available additional locomotives to meet the additional demand. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the reply given on 17.3.93 to the Starred Question No. 295 and say that he had stated in this very House that 61 pair of passenger trains were suspended in 1991-92 and today he has stated that 41 pairs of passenger trains were suspended in 1991-92. Therefore, I would like to know that out of these two replies which one is correct?

Secondly, I would like to know the total number of trains suspended during the last two years and whether a scheme has been formulated not to suspend the passenger trains in future?

Thirdly, it has been stated that 25 pair of trains were suspended in 1991-92 to meet the freight traffic demand. Summer specials are also run in summer season for which goods trains locomotives are taken. I would like to know the number of summer specials run in

summer season all over the country during 1991-92 and 1992-93...

MR. SPEAKER: If you ask such a lengthy question, then how will it be replied to?

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Sir, I conclude the hon. Minister may please tell what new arrangements are there for meeting the demand of passenger traffic?

[English]

SHRI K. C. LENKA: The correct information is that 41 pairs of passenger trains have been canceled during 1990-91. And these passenger trains have been cancelled due to the Gulf war in order to conserve diesel oil. During 1991-92 25 pairs of passenger trains have been cancelled. And the diversion of locomotives to the goods trains has taken place in order to meet the additional traffic demand during the peak period.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: The hon. Minister has stated that in 1992-93 no passenger train was suspended but there is information to the effect that the government had taken a decision on 28th December, 1992 to suspend 118 passenger trains to meet the target of freight movement of 35 crore 40 lakh tonnes. I would like to know whether the number of locomotives is being increased? And during the last three years how many more locomotives were added? Prior to the present Budget, passengers traveled in three-tire reserved coaches from morning to evening without any reservation. But according to the present reservation rules, reservation is necessary in daytime also. I would like to know the steps taken by his Ministry to mitigate the sufferings of the passengers? (Interruptions)

He is making incorrect statement? (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K. C. LENKA : Sir, During 1992—93... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I will declare that the Question Hour is over. I am allowing him to reply.

SHRI K. C. LENKA : Sir, during 1992—93, the target was fixed at 350 Million tonnes and total loading was made 349.20 million tonnes. We have achieved that target. There was no cancellation of passenger trains during 1992—93 and the passenger trains which had been cancelled were selective. (*Interruptions*)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

SAARC Summit

841. SHRI RABI RAY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister participated in the Seventh SAARC Summit held in Dhaka during April, 1993;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed and the broad outcome of the Summit; and

(c) the achievements made by the Indian delegation at the Summit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes Sir, The Prime Minister participated in the 7th SAARC Summit held in Dhaka from April 10—11, 1993.

(b) The main subjects discussed in the Summit were regional economic cooperation, poverty—eradication in South Asia, increase of contacts at people to people levels, regional

cooperation to fight Drugs and Terrorism and cooperation to promote the welfare of vulnerable sections of population such as Children and Disabled Persons. The outcome of these discussions was generally positive and reaffirmed the utility of SAARC as an additional policy—instrument for improving relations between the countries of the South Asian region.

(c) SAARC decisions are based on unanimous agreement of all the member—States. The Indian delegation played an effective and constructive role in arriving at a consensus on important issues such as terrorism, SAPTA, environment, etc. This role was directed towards summit decisions which would provide greater content to regional activities and strengthen SAARC.

Agencies for Postal Material

842. SHRIN. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide agencies for postal material to the unemployed rural youth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement this scheme in the tribal and backward areas of the country on priority basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). There are already schemes under which agents may be appointed for sale of postage stamps and stationery in urban and rural area as well as in hilly/tribal backward areas on Commission basis.

Under these schemes a commission of 1.5% is payable to the licence holder in urban areas. The scheme provides for issue of licenees

to Ex—Servicemen, P&T Pensioners, dependents of P&T employees, educated unemployed and physically handicapped.

In hill tribal backward areas commission is paid at the following rates:

Amount of sales per month
Rates of Commission

Upto Rs. 100	5%
Rs. 101 to 200	7.5%
Rs. 201 and above	10%

(c) and (d). The scheme as per details given above is already in force in the tribal and backward areas of the county since 1980.

(e) and (f). Does not arise.

[Translation]

Air Doordarshan Kendras in Hilly and Adivasi Areas

843. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any special plan for setting up Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras in the hilly and adivasi districts of the various States during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) The progress made in this regard so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Details of the various projects of All India Radio Doordarshan under implementation envisaged to be set up as part of continuing schemes of VIth Plan, continuing Schemes of Annual Plans 199—91 and 1991—92 and VIIth Plan, which will provide radio/TV service in the hilly and tribal areas are given in the attached statement. The additional locations for setting up of TV transmitters in the country during the remaining period of VIIth Plan i.e. 1993—97 have, however, not been finalised.

STATEMENT

ALL INDIA RADIO PROJECTS

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
(A) Radio Stations			
1.	Assam	Tezpur	Work is being awarded
2.	-do-	Kokrajhar	Advanced stage of implementation
3.	-do-	Nowgang	-do-
4.	Bihar	Dhanbad	Equipment ordered, site to be finalised
5.	Gujarat	Ahwa	Advanced stage of implementation
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Kinnaur	Installation in progress
7.	-do-	Lahul Spiti	Envisaged to be set up.
8.	Karnataka	Mercara	Technically ready
9.	Kerala	Idukki	Advanced stage of implementation
10.	Maharashtra	Nasik	Technically ready
11.	-do-	Dhule	-do-
12.	Manipur	Churachandpur	Installation in progress

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
13.	Meghalaya	Jowai	-do-
14.	Mizoram	Saiha	Envisaged to be set up
15.	-do-	Lungleh	Technically ready
16.	Nagaland	Mokakchung	Installation in progress
17.	Orissa	Rourkela	Installation in progress
18.	-do-	Bhawani Patna	Advanced stage of implementation
19.	Rajasthan	Mount Abu	-do-
20.	Tripura	Lunghterai	Envisaged to be set up
21.	West Bengal	Darjeeling	Scheme approved
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	Car Nicobar	Envisaged to be set up
23.	Goa, Daman & Diu	Daman	Advanced stage of implementation
24.	Lakshadweep	Kavaratti	Building modifications under progress
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	Ziro	Work awarded. Approach road is to be laid by State Government

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
(B) OTHER PROJECTS			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar (50 KW SW)	Technically ready (power supply not available)
2.	-do-	Itanagar (100 KW MW)	-do-
3.	-do-	Tezu (10 KW MW)	Mobile transmitter installed. Transmitted under advanced stage of implementation
4.	-do-	Tawang (10 KW MW)	-do-
5.	-do-	Passighat (10 KW MW)	Advanced stage of implementation
6.	Manipur	Imphal (50 KW MW)	Aerial work in progress
7.	Nagaland	Kohima (50 KW MW)	Installation work in progress
8.	Orissa	Jeypore (100 KW MW)	Advanced stage of implementation
9.	Rajasthan	Jaipur (50 KW SW)	Technically ready
10.	Assam	Diphu (1 KW MW)	Building work in progress
11.	-do-	Guwahati (100 KW MW)	Preliminary Estimate under sanction. Equipment ordered.

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
12.	Orissa	Sambalpur (100 KW MW)	Works awarded
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Jagdalpur (100 KW MW)	Preliminary Estimate under sanction Equipment ordered.
14.	Kerala	Alleppey (200 KW MW)	Preliminary Estimate under sanction Equipment ordered.
15.	Bihar	Ranchi (50 KW MW)	-do-
16.	-do-	Bhagalpur (20 KW MW)	Preliminary estimate sanctioned Equipment ordered.
17.	-do-	Jamshedpur (2x3 KW FM)	Scheme approved
18.	West Bengal	Kurseong (1 KW MW)	-do-
(C) DOORDARSHAN PROJECTS			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	LPT, Nirmal HPT HPT, Rajamundry	Equipment to be ordered Site finalised project to be approved Equipment ordered Technically ready
		VLPT, Paderu LPT, Bheemavaram	

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	PPC, Itanagar	Studio equipment under installation. Play-back facility scheduled to be commissioned shortly.
		VLPT, Digboi	Project to be approved.
		VLPT, Popidupu	Equipment to be ordered.
3.	Assam	PPC, Dibrugarh	Scheduled to be commissioned shortly.
		HPT, Tezpur	Site taken over. Project to be approved.
		VLPT, Digboi	Equipment ordered.
		LPT, Bongaigaon	Technically ready
4.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	VLPT, Great Nicobar VLPT, Havelock	Equipment ordered Equipment to be ordered
		VLPY, Katchal	Project to be approved.
5.	Bihar	PGF, Daltonganj	Technically ready
		LPT, Lohardaga	Equipment ordered
		LPT, Godda	Technically ready

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
6.	Gujarat	HPT, Jamshedpur	Site finalised, Project to be approved
		HPT, Surat	Site finalised. Project to be approved
		HPT, Vadodara	Site finalised Project to be approved
		LPT, Ider	Equipment to be ordered.
7.	Himachal Pradesh	PPC, Shimla	Construction of building nearing completion.
		HPT, Shimla	Tower erected. Building completed. Antenna panels to be mounted on Tower.
		HPT, Dharmshala	Project to be approved. Site finalised.
		LPT, Sundernagar	Equipment ordered.
		VLPT, Ajuhu Port	Equip[ment ordered.
		LPT, Sujanpur	Equipment ordered.
		VLPT, Dalash	Equipment to be ordered

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	VLPT, Khara Pathar	Project to be approved
		PGF, Jammu	Building nearing completion.
		Transponder, Nagrota	Equipment ordered.
		HPT, Leh	Building and Tower works in progress
		HPT, Patnitop	Project to be approved. Site being identified
		LPT, Riasi	Equipment ordered
		LPT, Thanamandi	Equipment ordered
		VLPT, Poonch	Equipment to be ordered
9.	Karnataka	VLPT, Suranmkot	Project to be approved
		VLPT, Tithwal	Equipment ordered
		VLPT, Uri	Equipment ordered
		HPT, Mysore	Project to be approved
		HPT, Mangalore	Site to be identified
			Project to be approved.

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
10.	Kerala	LPT, Mundegere	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Ramadurg	Equipment ordered
		LPT, Gokak	Equipment to be ordered
		HPTZ, Calicut	Interim set up on reduced power of 1 KW ready.
		HPT, Cannanore	Project to be approved. Site identified
11.	Manipur	LPT, Kanangarth	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Thodupuzha	-do-
		VLPT, Munnar	-do-
		HPT, Churachandpur	Completion of building in progress
		VLPT, Moreh	Equipment ordered
12.	Madhya Pradesh	PGF, Raipur	Technically ready
		HPT, Ambikpur	Site to be identified. Project to be approved.
		LPT, Alirajpur	Equipment to be ordered.
		LPT, Jeora	Equipment ordered

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
13.	Maharashtra	VLPT, Parasia	-do-
		HPT, Jalgaon	Site identified. Project to be approved.
		HPT, Hathikhamba	Project to be approved
		LPT, Chiplun	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Kankauli	Equipment ordered
		VLPT, Khed	Project to be approved.
		VLPT, Junnar	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Sangamner	-do-
		VLPT, Karjat	Project to be approved.
		LPT, Chikaldhara	-do-
14.	Meghalaya	PPC, Tura	Scheduled to be commissioned on shortly
		HPT, Cherapunji	Project to be approved.
		LPT, Williamnagar	Equipment ordered

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
15.	Mizoram	PPC, Aizawl	Equipment under instalation. Playback facility scheduled to be commissioned shortly.
		HPT, Lungleh	Building works in progress.
16.	Nagaland	HPT, Mokochung	Construction of building in progress
		VLPT, Phek	Equipment ordered
17.	Orisa	HPT, Baleshwar	Project to be approved. Site identified.
		HPT, Sambalpur	Project to be approved.
		LPT, Padampur	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Deogarh	-do-
		LPT, Malkangiri	Equipment ordered.
		LPT, Navrangpur	Equipment t be ordered
18.	Rajasthan	HPT, Nathdwara	Site finalised Project to be approved.
		LPT, Amit	Equipment ordered.

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
19.	Sikkim	LPT, Deogarh	-do-
		LPT, Kumbalgarh	-do-
		LPT, Barasadri	Equipment to be ordered.
		ULPT, Rail Mogra	-do-
		PGF, Gangtok	Preliminary estimate to be Sanctioned Major equipment received
20.	Tamil Nadu	HPT, Gangtok	Building and Tower completed. Equipment installation started.
		HPT, Rameshwaram	Building nearing completion. Tower work in progress.
		LPT, Rajapalayam	Equipment ordered
		VLPT, Udumalpet	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Arani	-do-
21.	Tripura	LPT, Arcot	Equipment ordered
		LPT, Gudiyaatam	Equipment to be ordered.
		VLPT, Dharmanagar	Equipment ordered

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
22.	Uttar Pradesh	HPT, Lakhimpur	project to be approved. Site finalised.
		LPT, Kotdwar	Equipment ordered
		LPT, New Tehri	Equipment to be ordered
		VLPT, Joshimath	Equipment ordered
		VLPT, Chamoli	Project to be approved
		LPT, Haldwani	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Almora	-do-
		VLPT, Chaukhutia	Equipment ordered
		VLPT, Bageshwar	Equipment to be ordered
		VLPT, Champawat	Equipment ordered
		VLPT, Didihat	Equipment ordered
23.	West Bengal	HPT, Kharagpur	Site finalised. Project to be approved.
		PGF, Siliguri	Construction of building in progress Major equipment received.

S. No.	State	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
		Transposer, Tiger Hill	Equipment ordered
		LPT, Farakka	Equipment to be ordered
		LPT, Ryna	Project to be approved.

LEGEND:

ALL INDIA RADIO

KW-Kilo Watt

MW - Medium Wave

SW - Short Wave

FM - Frequency Modulation

DOORDARSHAN

PPC - Programme Production Centre

PGF - Programme Generation Facility

HPT - High Power Transmitter

LPT - Low Power Transmitter

VLPT - Very Low Power Transmitter.

[English]

Water Level in Maharashtra**Regional Programmes on
Doordarshan**

*844. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for selecting regional programmes on Doordarshan Kendras;

(b) the number of proposals received by the Doordarshan with regard to Garhwal and Kumaon regions of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years along with the number of such programmes selected for telecast;

(c) the percentage of programmes of these regions received during the last three years; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to cover more programmes of these regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No specific criteria for selection of regional programmes telecast by various Kendras have been laid down. However, proposals are evaluated keeping in view the programme requirement of Doordarshan, availability of telecast time and interest of viewers etc.

(b) and (c). Such details are not maintained centrally in a compiled form.

(d) Doordarshan endeavours to cover programmes of every part of the country depending upon their news value, and subject to availability of resources and telecast time.

*845. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Water Research Organisation conducted a study of ground water level in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the salient features of their findings and recommendations;

(c) whether the Union Government have advised the Government of Maharashtra about various measures in order to face the situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Ground Water Board conducts the study of ground water levels in various parts of Maharashtra four times in a year in the months of January, May August and November.

(b) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The study of ground water levels conducted in January, 1993 has shown a situation of both raise and fall in level in comparison to levels observed in January, 1992. A rise of more than 4 metres has been observed in small pockets of the districts of Akola, Aurangabad, Amravati, Beed, Bhandra, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Kolhapur, Latur, Nanded, Nasik, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Pune, Sholapur, Satara and Yavatmal. A fall of more than 4 metres has been observed in small pockets in the districts of Ahmednagar, Amravati, Beed, Bhandara, Cadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nasik, Osmanabad,

Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Sholapur, Sangli and Satara.

Central Ground Water Board has provided the information on ground water level and maps showing changes in ground water levels in the State to the State Government of Maharashtra. It has assisted the State in the preparation of proposal for artificial recharge of ground water in 12 selected watersheds. Central Ground Water Board has also initiated a scheme for artificial recharge of ground water in Amravati and Jalgaon districts of Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Tehri Dam Project

846. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government for completion of Tehri Dam project;

(b) the amount involved for completion of the project;

(c) the amount spent till March 31, 1993; and

(d) the sources through which the amount is likely to be mobilised?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) For construction of Tehri Dam Project a package of Soviet Technical & Financial Assistance had been arranged. On the breaking up of Soviet Union, the same package is no longer available and as such work at the site has been dislocated. Alternative sources of funding including external funding are being

explored.

(b) Estimated cost of Tehri Hydro Power Complex and Theri Dam Project respectively is RS. 5583 crores and Rs. 2815 crores.

(c) Rs. 766.09 crores.

(d) As stated in (a) above the alternative sources of funding including external funding are being explored.

[English]

Performance of Air India

*847. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the annual expenditure incurred by Air India on the maintenance of offices and permanent staff in Eastern Europe during 1990-991 and 1992;

(b) the annual operational expenses incurred as against the income from clientele during the above period;

(c) the annual percentage of decline in Air India revenue in Eastern Europe, country-wise; and

(d) the reasons for continuing operations resulting in heavy losses in foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b). In Air India, statistics are maintained on Financial Year (April-March) basis. Details of revenue earned and cost of maintenance of offices of Air India in Eastern Europe for the period 1989-90 to 1991-92 are given below:

	1989-90		1990-91		1991-92	
	Revenue	Cost of Maintenance	Revenue	Cost of Maintenance	Revenue	Cost of Maintenance
Moscow	213.65	236.84	2273.73	279.06	2358.34	245.72
Warsaw	84.27	13.79	246.49	2377	125.54	16.63
Prague	179.50	35.93	92.30	26.32	85.09	32.00
Budapest	88.00	15.36	151.62	20.94	126.11	19.23
Belgrade	89.62	15.74	119.45	17.453	50.13	13.65

(c) Percentage of decline in revenue, in 1991-92 compared to the revenue in 1990-91 country-wise is indicated below;

Russian Federation	No declined
Czechoslovakia	7.80%
Hungary	16.80%
Poland	49.10%
Yugoslavia	58.00%

(d) The revenue earned still exceeds the cost of maintenance of the Offices.

[Translation]

UN Statistical Commission

*848 SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India have been elected as a member of the United Nations Statistical Commission;

(b) if so, the tenure of the membership;

(c) whether the Commission held its meeting recently; and

(d) if so, the subjects discussed and the broad outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Four years with effect from January 1, 1993.

(b) Four Years with effect from January 1, 1993.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The information is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Subjects discussed in the meeting of the 27th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission included the following:

01. Strengthening International statistical cooperation.

02. **National Accounts and balances:**(a) **System of National Accounts(SNA):**(b) **Implementation of the revised system of national Accounts (SNA).**03. **International economic classification:**(a) **Implementation of the International Standard, Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC), and the provisional Central Product Classification (CPC);**(b) **International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE).**04. **Industrial Statistics**05. **Service Statistics**06. **Price Statistics**07. **Demographic and social, statistics:**(a) **Population and housing censuses;**(b) **Civil registration and vital statistics;**(c) **Statistics on special population groups;**(d) **Statistics on the advancement of women**08. **Environment statistics**09. **Tourism statistics**10. **General development and integration of methodological work, including development indication:**(a) **General development and inte-****gration of methodological work;**(b) **Development indicators.**11. **Technical cooperation:**(a) **Technical cooperation in statistics;**(b) **National House survey Capability Programmed (NHSCP);**(c) **Social Dimension of Adjustment (SDA) Programmed and the living standards Measurement study (ISMS);**(d) **Monitoring the achievement of social goals in the 1990s.**12. **Coordination and integration of international statistical programs.**13. **Programme questions:**(a) **Programme performance and implementation;**(b) **Programme objectives and planning.**14. **Fundamental principles of official statistics.**

The broad views/recommendations of the /Commission included the following. The Commission. (1) considered it essential that the Global Statistical system focus its efforts in a revitalised frame work of cooperation towards overall statistical Commission and Working Group, and with an enhanced regional dimension; (2) recommended the adoption of a revised system of National Accounts along with some amendment and the coordination at a high level of the mobilisation of bilateral and multilateral resources for its implementation; (3) in the light of the overall decrease in resources for technical cooperation for statistics, recommended an

increase in resources for National Accounts and other types of economic statistics; (4) stressed the need for (a) an integrated flow of current information on industrial structure and growth; (b) study of national experiences including the impediments in the use of international standards for industrial classification and (c) harmonisation of the international standards with the revised system of National Accounts; (5) stressed the importance of the development of methodology, concepts and classification and technical cooperation in service statistics in general and international trade-in-services in particular; (6) emphasised, inter alia, (a) the importance of the International Comparison Programme (b) the need for attention to methodological issues and (c) at the world level, these result should not be used for administration purposes; (7) emphasised the importance of studies of Census methods for the 2000 round of population and housing Census; (8) recommended intensive continuation of research work on sound statistical methodology for derived indicators on certain social topics such as poverty; (9) recommended building of national capacity in developing countries in all areas of environmental statistics, environmental accounting and environmental and sustainable development indicators; (10) emphasised technical cooperation for development of tourism statistics; (11) recommended the strengthening of gender concerns in economic statistics.

[English]

Teesta Project

*849. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total irrigation potential of the Teesta project;

(b) whether the project the development of a link between Brahmaputra and Ganga;

(c) whether cooperation of Bangladesh is being sought for implementation of the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Teesta Barrage Project envisages annual irrigation to an area of about 5.27 lakh hectares.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Power Projects of Gujarat

*850 SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANCHANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the power projects of Gujarat pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) the names of those power projects which have been cleared during 1992 and so far; and

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing the other projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) Power Projects to be located in Gujarat awaiting techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) are the Gandhinagar TAS Extension Unit-5 (1x210 MW), Wanakbori TPS Extension Unit-7 (1x210 MW) and Magrol (Lignite) TPS (1x250 MW).

(b) Gandhar CCGT (615 MW) was accorded in principle clearance by CEA as a joint sector project on 30th March, 1993. After the project authorities submit a revised feasibility report and tie up certain essential inputs, including a financial package, the project would be considered by CEA for accorded a financial package. the project would be considered by CEA for accorded formal techno-economic clearance. ANTPC CCGT project of 615 MW at

Gandhar, which had been accorded CEA clearance earlier, was accorded investment approval by the Central Government in February, 1992.

(c) There has been no delay in clearance of any projects of Gujarat by CEA and the projects currently pending with CEA were received recently. Pipavav CCGT 615 MW was technoeconomically cleared by CEA in March, 1991 but gas linkage for this project has not been confirmed.

[English]

Joint Ventures in Power sector

*851 SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national Thermal Power Corporation has any proposal to enter into joint ventures with private entrepreneurs. NRIs and foreign investors for power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of such agencies;

(c) the estimated power generation by these projects; and

(d) the number of such proposals cleared by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P.SALVE): (a) to (c). National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have under its consideration the following proposals for setting up projects jointly with private entrepreneurs:

S.No.	Projects & its capacity	Interested private Parties
1.	Godavari, Uppada, East Godavari District Andhra Pradesh 198 MW	CMS Generation, USA, Spectrum Technologies, USA, Jaya Food Industries Ltd.
2	Yamunanagar Haryana 840 MW Antilluies.	Haryana State Electricity Board and Sores Found management on behalf of Quantum Fund NV, Netherland
3.	Bhilai, Madhya Pradesh 500 MW	Steel Authority of India Limited is one of the interested parties for this Project.

Besides the above, NTPC and Asea Brown Boveri have jointly bid for the Bawana Gas Based Project of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking.

(d) Ultimate generating capacity and the extent of investment in the above projects, has not been finalised and the Central Government have so far not accorded formal clearance to any joint venture project of the NTPC.

[Translation]

Maithan Thermal Power Plant

*852. PROF. (SMT) RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Maithan thermal power plant (Right Bank);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Damodar Valley Corporation and the Government of Bihar have started the land acquisition proceedings;

(d) if so, the amount spent so far by Damodar valley Corporation in this regard;

(e) the extent of power in megawatts likely to be generated by the project; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (f) A proposal of Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) to set up a thermal power plant (Stage-I, 4x210=840 MW) at Maithon on the right bank of the Maithon reservoir was techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority in November, 1988 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1205.80 crores. It was envisaged to obtain soviet financial assistance for the implementation of this project. However, with the dissolution of USSR, the anticipated credit did not materialise. The process of land acquisition for the project has been initiated and the DVC had upto 31.3.1993 incurred a preliminary expenditure of Rs. 2.07 crores on the project. Since the requisite funds required for the project have not yet been tied up, its commissioning schedule cannot be firmed up.

[English]

Relations with Myanmar

* 853 SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreements have been signed with Myanmar recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L.

BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India and Myanmar signed an agreement on mutual cooperation in controlling during trafficking across the India-Myanmar border on March 30, 1993, in Yangon, during Foreign Secretary's visit to that country. The Agreement has been signed with a view to developing channels for exchange of intelligence and information, and cooperation with the Government of Myanmar in the matter of combating illicit traffic in drugs.

(c) Government propose to sign a Border Trade Agreement with Myanmar. It is also proposed to continue dialogue on various bilateral issues of mutual concern and interest.

[Translation]

Irrigation Project

* 854. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of major and medium irrigation projects submitted for approval;

(b) the details of irrigation projects approved so far;

(c) the details of projects pending for clearance;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared; and

(e) the detailed of estimated cost in each case?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAM SHUKLA): (a) and (e) A STATEMENT is laid on the Table of the house.

Status of major & medium irrigation projects received in the Central Water Commission for Techno-Economic Appraisal during 1.4.90 to 31.3.1993

S. No.	Project which have been given investment clearance by the Planning commission			Projects found acceptable by the Advisory Committee			Projects appraised for techno-economic viability but consideration deferred by the Advisory Committee due to non-resolution of Inter State issues/non-clearance from Environmental forest angles etc.			Projects on which States are required to sort out various techno-economic issues			Projects sent back to State Government for submission of modified reports compliance observations		
	Major	Medium	Minor	Major	Medium	Minor	Major	Medium	Minor	Major	Medium	Minor	Major	Medium	Minor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
—Number/Estimates costs (Rs. crores)															
1. Andhra Pradesh	-	3/95.56	1/335.34	1/25.96	-	-	1/50.00	-	4/2001.27	3/72.29	-	-	-	-	-
2. Assam	-	-	-	-	1/337.60	-	-	-	2/67.95	-	-	-	-	4/108.53	-
3. Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6/1546.86	-	37.22	-	-	-	1/9.98	-
4. Gujarat	-	1/12.48	-	2/56/56	-	1/22.34	1/6.01	4/131.18	-	-	-	-	-	5/159.21	-
5. Haryana	-	-	-	-	1/72.89	-	194.96	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/27.52	-

[illegible]

S. No.	Project which have been given invest-ment clearance by the Planning commission			Projects found acceptable by the Advisory Committee subject to compliance to certain observation such as obtaining environ-mental and/or Forest clearance etc.			Projects appraised for techno-economic viability but considera-tion deferred by the Advisory Committee due to non-resolution of Inter State issues/non-clearance from Environmental forest angles etc.			Projects on which States are required to sort out various techno-economic issues			Projects sent back to State Government for submission of modified reports compliance observations		
	Major	Medium	4	Major	Medium	6	Major	Medium	8	Major	Medium	10	Major	Medium	12
1	2	3		5			7			9		10	11		12
—Number/Estimates costs (Rs. crores)															
13.	Uttar Pradesh	1/467.76	1/12.54	1/52/18	-	-	-	-	-	1/48.07	-	-	-	-	-
14.	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/93.13	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2/541.01	6/172.307/2915.43	7/183.28	2/410.49	1/23.34	21/6449.28	30/726.58	16/30	23/630.66						

Note: The balance of projects depends on now soon that state Government are able to comply with the observations of the Central Appraised Agency and obtain clearances from the Ministry of Environment and Forests from environmental and forest angles for Major-projects and from forest angle for Medium Projects. The State Governments have also to obtain clearance from Ministry of Welfare if it involves rehabilitation and resettlement of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Power Transmission Projects

*855. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National power Transmission Corporation has undertaken the construction of power transmission projects to draw power from the Dulhasti hydro-electric project in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the cost thereof and the expenditure incurred so far;

(c) whether the French consortium had been given contract for construction of the transmission lines on a turn-key basis;

(d) whether the work had been stopped some time back;

(e) whether the completion of the transmission project is likely to be delayed;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the present status of the work?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) and (b) Government has approved in December, 1992, the Dulhasti Kishempur Transmission Project to be executed by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (earlier known as National Power Transmission Corporation) at an estimated cost of Rs. 137.69 cores. Though the major packages for the project have been awarded no major expenditure has been incurred so far.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited is to make all efforts to complete the project to synchronise with the commissioning of the first Unit of the Dulhasti Hydro-electric Project.

Grounding of Aircraft

*856. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of aircraft of IA, AI and Vayudoot have been grounded;

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise, during each of the last three years; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) to (c) Except for the grounding of the fleet of A 320 aircraft of Indian Airlines on consideration of safety in 1990, there has been no large scale grounding of aircraft during the last three years. Recently, the fleet of B. 747 and A. 300 of Air India become non-operational due to agitation by their flight engineers.

Air Tariff Levied by and IA

*857. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the air tariff levied from Trivandrum airport to Gulf Sector by the Air India and the India Airlines is much higher than international tariffs approved by the IATA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any representation from NRIs in Gulf countries for the reconsideration of tariffs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Representations have been received from time to time from various organisations of NRIs that the fares between Trivandrum and Gulf are high and have been fixed unilaterally by Air India. These allegations are not correct. The fares from Trivandrum of Gulf stations have been prescribed with approval of the concerned Government keeping in view recommendations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA). The fares compare favorably with fares for similar distances elsewhere.

West Flowing Rivers

*858 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted to determine the feasibility of tapping the west flowing rivers along the Western Coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government have any master plan to involve any international financing agencies to harness the river waters now flowing into the Arabian Sea?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) NO, Sir.

A National Perspective for Water Resources Development prepared by Government envisages interlinkage between various peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers separately for

transfer of water from water rich basins to water short basins for optimum utilisation of water resources.

Government has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 to firm up these proposals. The National Water Development Agency has completed 39 water balance studies and permissibility reports in respect of water transfer links connecting west flowing rivers under Peninsular component.

Also field survey and investigation works in respect of water transfer links of west flowing rivers taken up during 1991-92 is programmed for completion in 1993-94.

Modernisation of Power Plants

*859. PROF ASHOK ANANDRAO DESH MUKH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various power plants which have been identified for renovation and modernisation during 1993-94;

(b) the number of power plants renovated and modernised during each of the last three years; and

(c) the percentage of power increased therefrom, separately?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) 48 thermal power stations have been programmed for Renovation & Modernisation (R & M) works during 1993-94 and an outlay of Rs. 516.90 crores envisaged for the purpose. Besides these, 12 hydro-electric scheme, covering 43 units, with a total installed capacity of 2259.8 MW and costing Rs. 104.89 crores are programmed for R & M works for the current year.

(b) The number of R & M related activities taken up in identified thermal power stations during the last three years was as follows:-

1990-91	166
1991-92	87
1992-93	50
<hr/>	
Total	253

Besides the above R&M works were completed during the above-mentioned period in four hydro-electric projects.

(c) While it is difficult to attribute increase in power generation to any single factor, the generation of power has been increased by approximately 3% in the thermal units where R&M related activities were completed. In the 4 hydro-electric power stations where renovation and modernisation was carried out during the above-mentioned period, the increase in power generation was of the order of 11.57%.

Power Projects in Tamil Nadu

*860. SHRI R. DHANUSKODIATHITHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of power projects in Tamil Nadu has been delayed due lack of funds;

(b) if so, the names of the projects which have been affected thereby; and

(c) the efforts being made the Union Government to provide funds for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Availability of requisite funds has not been a major causal factor to the delay in implementation of sanctioned projects in Tamil nadu.

Cotton Production

*865 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the production of cotton during 1992-93;

(b) whether the production during the said period has exceeded the demand in domestic market;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the export of cotton in view of its high yield?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) The production of cotton during 1992-93 is likely to be of the order of 119.6 lakh bales (of 170 kgs. each).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The production in 1992-93 is in excess of the estimated demand in domestic market which is around 113 lakh bales per annum.

(d) Considering the comfortable cotton position in the country the Government has been allowing exports of cotton in larger quantities. For 1992-93 the Government has already released an export quota of about 15 lakh bales. The surplus all export quotas so far.

Teaching of Toddlers

*866. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NCERT has recently made any study regarding the teaching of toddlers in nursery schools;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to lessen the burden on children at primary stage;

(d) the number of nursery schools at present

in the Capital; and

(e) the number of such school which have prescribed the textbooks for the children instead of adopting play-way method?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) The NCERT has been conducting annual Seminars for Principals of leading Schools of Delhi in Early Childhood Education (ECE) since 1989. The specific recommendations of these Seminars have been:

- i) There should be no admission tests for children at pre-primary stage.
- ii) There should be no formal instruction of reading, writing and arithmetic at this stage.
- iii) The pre-primary school should not admit children of less than 3 1/2 years of age.
- iv) There should be a system of licensing and accreditation for pre-primary schools.

The above recommendations were communicated to all the States/UTs. In consonance with these recommendations, the Directorate of Education, Delhi Administration abolished its system of admission test for model schools in 1991, adopted the system of computerised random selection and in December, 1992, collaborated with the NCERT in conducting a follow up seminar for the Principals of Delhi schools in ECE. In addition, the Central Government appointed a National Advisory Committee on 1.3.92 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal, former Chairman of the UGC, to advise on the ways and means to reduce the curriculum load on school students at all levels, including the nursery level.

As per the latest data available, there were 759 pre-primary/pre-basic schools in the UT of

Delhi as on 30.9.91. No specific information is available with the Delhi Administration as to the number of such schools which have prescribed textbooks to the children instead of adopting play-way method.

Adult Education

*867. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR:
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on adult education during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the allocation made therefor during the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) whether due to inadequate assistance provided to the State Governments there is a shortfall in the targets of adult education laid down under this programme;

(d) if so, the targets fixed and the number of persons made literate during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken to increase the financial assistance to the State Government to achieve the targets fixed for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) The national Literacy Mission aims at imparting functional literacy to 80.00 million adult illiterates in the 15-35 age-group by 1995. The following schemes/programmes are under implementation:

- (i) Rural Functional Literacy projects
- (iii) Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary agencies.
- (iii) Total literacy Campaigns

- (iv) Mass programme of Functional Literacy
- (v) Post Literacy and Continuing Education

(vi) Strengthening of Administrative Structures at State and District level.

The amount of grants released under these programmes state-wise is enclosed in the attached statement. A total allocation of Rs. 177.97 crores has been proposed for Adult Education in the current financial year as against the Budget provision of Rs. 120.00 crore for the previous year.

With the shift in the strategy from the center-based programme to the campaign approach, the dominant strategy under the Mission now is the Total Literacy Campaigns (TLC). Funds are now released directly to the zilla Sakshartha Samites which are registered bodies. The Rural Functional Literacy Projects implemented by

the State Govt./UT Administrations representing the centre-based programme has been closed down in all states except Jammu & Kashmir. Consequently the release of funds under the scheme to the State Govt./UT Administrations has been declining over the last three years. However, adequate funds are being made available to the Samites which have taken up Total Literacy Campaigns.

As for the target, there exists the national target of covering 30.00 million persons by 1995. Against this overall objective a target is fixed for each TLC district based on survey conducted for this purpose. In the 148 TLC projects approved so far the target fixed after survey was 415.02 lakh against which there has been an effective enrollment of 278.64 lakh persons of which 123.56 lakhs persons have so far been made literate. In respect of the other programmes though no targets were fixed an estimated 65.14 lakh persons are reported to have been made literate.

STATEMENT

S.No.	States/UTs	Amount of grant released during				
		1990-91 I-V	1991-92 VI-VII	1992-93		
1	2	3	4	5		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2271.49	973.71	839.64		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.93	23.79	11.07		
3.	Assam	176.68	279.84	111.49		
4.	Bihar	757.10	502.63	299.67		
5.	Goa	4.17	0.30	5.29		
6.	Gujarat	821.93	405.89	659.44		
7.	Haryana	103.93	9.39	426.79		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	50.80	51.40	214.68		
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.48	51.13	-		
10.	Karnataka	1298.94	725.82	750.81		
11.	Kerala	353.11	161.58	21.44		
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1265.62	734.28	289.35		

S.No.	States/UTs	Amount of grant released during				
		1990-91 I-V	1991-92 VI-VII	1992-93		
1	2	3	4	5		
13.	Maharashtra	896.42	756.36	838.71		
14.	Manipur	24.39	45.01	8.78		
15.	Meghalaya	31.91	29.47	14.16		
16.	Mizoram	9.95	8.61	3.69		
17.	Nagaland	37.29	27.78	18.17		
18.	Orissa	603.57	804.43	589.55		
19.	Punjab	89.30	104.30	11.29		
20.	Rajasthan	506.86	613.23	501.90		
21.	Sikkim	7.89	9.22	-		
22.	Tamil Nadu	470.12	787.95	1232.01		
23.	Tripura	13.38	19.50	-		
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1179.56	780.07	9976.09		
25.	West Bengal	1580.85	1606.06	1096.19		

S.No.	States/UTs	Amount of grant released during			
		1990-91 I-V	1991-92 VI-VII	1992-93	
1	2	3	4	5	
26.	A&N Islands	98.06	2.81	5.41	
27.	Chandigarh	14.31	9.45	21.49	
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5.48	1.25	0.44	
29.	Daman & Diu	0.66	0.30	-	
30.	Delhii	40.55	40.79	49.86	
31.	Lakshadweep	0.32	3.81	2.57	
32.	Pondicherry	40.13	11.11	-	

Folk Songs and Dances

*868. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to promote folk songs and dances of different States particularly of Rajasthan during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Folk songs and dances in different States are promoted both by the State Government and the Central Government.

The Central Government promotes folk songs and dances in the country through the various scheme of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, which is the National Academy for music, and the seven Zonal Cultural Centers, spread all over the country.

In the last two years, the folk songs and dances of Rajasthan were encouraged by the Lok Utsav programme, the inter-state cultural exchange programme, the scheme of financial assistance to cultural institutions through grant of fellowship and awards and through documentation.

Rajasthan State is a member of the West Zone Cultural Center, Udaipur, the North Zone Cultural Center, Patiala and the North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Alhabad. A large number of folk songs and dance programmes were held by these zones in different States to popularise and promote folk songs and dances including those of Rajasthan during the last two years.

Staff Training

*869 SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry is paying close attention to training refresher and orientation courses for all its staff engaged in running trains in view of increasing speed of trains and technological up gradations;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been worked out;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) The time by which they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b), Yes, Sir.

(c) Training modules have been evolved for initial promotional and refresher training and necessary training is imparted in over 160 training institutions spread all over the Railway network.

(d) Training of staff is a continuous process and training modules are updated periodically to take into account technological upgradation and other changes.

Crop Insurance Scheme

*870. SHRIMANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Crop Insurance Scheme was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers hold on March 5, 1993 to finalise the draft Agriculture Policy Resolution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The draft Pilot Crop Insurance scheme was discussed in the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 5th March, 1993.

(b) The discussion focused mainly on the ratio of risk sharing between Central and State Government, High rates of actuarial premia, coverage of all crops, reduction in unit areas and voluntary participation by farmers.

(c) Suggestions made in the Chief Minister Conference are being examined in consultation with General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC). GIC is also working out the operational modalities of the scheme. States have asked to select a district each for implementation of the pilot scheme and supply the yield data to GIC in respect of crops proposed for coverage.

Price Policy for Kharif Crops

*871, SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased the support price for Kharif crops to compensate

the increased prices of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the prices of the fertilizers as well as the support prices for the Rabi and Kharif crops were increased during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) (a) and (b), The Price Policy for Kharif Crops of 1992-93 Season has been formulated keeping in view the changes in input prices and their impact on cost of production. The minimum support prices for Kharif Crops of 1992-93 Season have been raised substantially. The hike in per quintal minimum support price of Paddy is Rs. 40; Millets Rs. 35; Pulses Rs. 95; Groundnut-in-shell Rs. 105; Sunflower seed Rs. 130; soabean Rs. 80 and Raw Cotton Rs. 110.

(c) Statements showing: (a) minimum support prices of major agricultural commodities fixed by the Government during last 3 years and (b) retail prices of major fertilisers under Statutory Price Control are given in the Statement I & II attached.

STATEMENT

(Rs. per quintal)

S.No.	Commodity	Variety	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Paddy	Common Fine	205	230	270
		Fine	215	240	280
		Superfine	225	250	290
2.	Coarse Cereals	F.A.Q.	180	205	240
	(Jowar, Bajra & Ragi)				
3.	Maize	F.A.Q.	180	210	245
4.	Wheat	"	225	275\$	330\$
5.	Barley	"	200	210	260
6.	Gram	"	450	500	600
7.	Arhar	"	480	545	640
8.	Moong	"	480	545	640

(Rs per quintal)

S.No.	Commodity	Variety	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Urad	"	480	545	640
10.	Sugarcane @	"	23.00	26.00	31.00
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777	620	695	800
12.	Groundnut-in-Shell	F.A.Q.	580	645	750
13.	Jute	TD-5 Grade	320	375	400
14.	Rapesed/Mustard	F.A.Q.	500	670	760
15.	Sunflower Seed	"	600	670	800
16.	Soyabean	Black	350	395	475
17.	Safflower	F.A.Q.	575	640	720

(Rs. per quintal)

S.No.	Commodity	Variety	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Toria	"	570	645	725
19.	Tobacco (Rs. per kg.)	V.F.C. F-2 L-2 Grade*	13.25 14.25	14.75 16.00	16.00 17.50
20.	Copra	F.A.Q.	1600/-	1700/-	
		Ball F.A.Q.	-	1850	

@ These prices are linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% with proportionate premium for every 0.1% increase above that 1 that level.

£ Black Soil

* Light Soil

For Calendar years 1990 and 1991 respectively.

\$ Including a Central bonus of Rs. 25.00 per quintal.

STATEMENT-II

PRICE WITH EFFECT FROM

S.No.	Name of Fertilizer	31.1.86	25.7.91	11.8.91	25.8.92
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Urea (46%)	350	3300	3060	2760
2.	Ammonium Sulphate (20.6%)	1650	- &		1920 @
3.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (25%N)	1700	- &		080 @
4.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (26%)	1770	- &		080 @
5.	Muriate of Potash (60%K)	1300	1820	1700	&&
6.	Sulphate of Potash (50%K)	2100	-		&&
7.	Di-ammonium Phosphate (18:46:0)	3600	5040	4680	&&
8.	NPK (17:17:17)	2600	3640	3380	&&
9.	NPK (15:15:15)	2100	2940	2740	&&
10.	NPK (19:19:19)	2950	4140	3840	&&
11.	Ammonium Phosphate Sulphate (20:20:0)	2600	3640	3380	&&
12.	Nitro Phosphate (20:20:0)	2400	3360	3120	&&

S.No.	Name of Fertilizer	31.1.86	25.7.91	11.8.91	25.8.92
13.	Nitro Phosphate (23:23:0)	2930	4120	3800	&&
14.	Ammonium Phosphate Sulphate (16:20:20:0)	2930	3220	3000	&&
15.	Urea Amonium Phosphate	3050	4780	3960	&&
16.	Urea Ammonium Phosphate 28:20:0	3050	4780	3960	&&
17.	NPK (14:28:14)	3050	4280q	q3960	&&
18.	NPK (14:35:14)	3400	4760	4420	&&
19.	NPK (10:26:26)	2950	1140	3840	&&
20.	NPK (12:32:16)	3250	4560	4220	&&
21.	Triple Super Phosphate (46%P2O5) Granular)	2600	3640	3380	&&
22.	Triple Super Phosphate (Powder)	2400	3360	3120	&&
23.	Single Super Phosphate (Powder) (11% P2O5)	820	1160	1030	&&
24.	Single Super Phosphate (Power) (16% P2O5)	950	1340	1240	&&

S.No.	Name of Fertilizer	31.1.86	25.7.91	11.8.91	25.8.92
25.	Single Super Phosphate	1100	1540	1440	88
26.	Ammonium Chloride (25%N)	1700	8		2000 @
27.	Anhydrous Ammonia	3770	5280	4900	4420 @
28.	Zincated Urea				3940

Note: The above price represent the maximum retail prices exclusive of sales tax and other local taxes

£ With effect from 19.2.91

& Taken out of Statutory Price Control w.e.f. 25.7.91

@ : Brought under Statutory Price Control w.e.f. 25.8.1992

& : Taken out of Statutory Price Control w.e.f. 25.8.92

Support price for Jute

*872SHRI RAMKAPSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of jute in Assam, Bihar and West Bengal have fallen below the minimum support price during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether due to collapse of price support system, the area under jute cultivation has decreased; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the government for the promotion of jute cultivation and marketing so as to bring India at par with other jute producing countries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b). The wholesale prices of raw jute in Assam, Bihar and West Bengal in 1990-91 and 1991-92 Jute seasons ruled at a level much higher than the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) fixed for the commodity. However, in 1992-93 in certain centers of these states, the wholesale prices were quoted below the MSP.

The fall in prices of raw jute during 1992-93 was largely on account of (i) huge carry-over stocks of raw jute, (ii) erosion of exports of jute goods to the erstwhile Soviet Union, (iii) lower off take of jute products by Food Corporation of India and (iv) apprehension of the dilution of orders reserving packing of foodgrains, sugar, urea and cement in the jute packaging material.

(c) Over the years, there has been no precipitous fall in the area under jute. However, the fluctuation in area under the cultivation depends largely on climatic factors specially the behavior of monsoon during the sowing period. Prices received by farmers also effect the area to some extent.

(d) In order to make jute cultivation more competitive with other growing countries, the Government has taken a number of developmental measures to increased the production through improvement of yield per hectare. These include (i) launching of Special Jute Development Programmes; (ii) checking decline market prices through price support operation by Jute Corporation of India without any quantitative limits; (iii) arising the inventories of the jute mills; (iv) releasing and export quotas of 1.5 lakh bales of raw jute the current Year; (v) enactment of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987; and (v) creation of Jute Modernisation Fund and Special Jute Development Fund.

[Translation]

Aerial Seeding and Spray

*873. SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI SWAMI
SURESHANAND:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to intensify Agricultural Development Programme by the applications of aerial seeding and aerial spray of insecticides;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c). National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board, Ministry of Environment & Forests is executing an aerial seeding programme for afforestation in difficult areas.

Aerial spraying is also occasionally undertaken for pest control on selected crops.

However the thrust is on integrated pest management approach aiming at minimum use of chemical pesticides.

Soyabean Production

*874. DR. RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of soyabean during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the estimated quantity of soyabean likely to be produced during 1993;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide some incentives to farmers growing soyabean in view of its high protein content; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALR AM JAKHAR): (a) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) During 1992-93, it is provisionally estimated that Soabean production will be around 31.09 lakh tonnes.

(c) and (d) Centrally sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation to increase the production of 9 major oilseeds including Soyabean. Financial assistance is given on basic key inputs like production and distribution of seed, seed mini-kits, plant protection measures, rhizobium culture, distribution of farm implements, demonstrations including front-line demonstrations on farmers fields, distribution of gypsum/pyrite, etc. Minimum support prices for soyabean in 1992-93 have been fixed at Rs. 525/ quintal (Yellow variety) and Rs. 475/quintal (black variety) which are 18% and 20% higher than the minimum support prices for yellow and black varieties respectively in the previous year.

STATEMENT

(a) State-wise production of soybean during the last three years were as follows:

('000 tonnes)

S.No.	States	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	0.4	0.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.4	2.6	4.2
3.	Gujarat	19.1	14.7	15.2
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0.2	0.2	0.2
5.	Karnataka	4.0	9.3	10.9
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1496.5	2183.8	1887.0
7.	Maharashtra	100.1	189.3	191.2
8.	Meghalaya	0.9	0.9	0.9
9.	Mizoram	-	1.0	1.7
10.	Nagaland	2.4	2.0	3.5
11.	Orissa	9.7	1.1	0.6
12.	Rajasthan	135.2	160.4	130.2

(100 tonnes)

S.No.	States	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Sikkim	7.3	7.5	4.8
14.	Uttar Pradesh	27.5	28.0	24.0
15.	West Bengal	0.3	0.3	0.3
	All India	1805.6	2601.5	2275.2

[English]

Marketing facilities for Agricultural Produce.

*875. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA
URS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether some state Government have
sent proposals to the Union Government for
augmenting the marketing facilities for agricul-
tural produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken
by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c). During
1992-93, nine States had sent 88 proposals for
augmenting marketing facilities for agricultural
produce, out of which only 19 markets could be
assisted. The details are given in the attached
Statement.

The scheme has since been transferred to
the State Sector as per decision of the National
Development Council.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Markets for which proposals were received during 1992-93		Amount of Central Assistance requested (Rs. in Lakhs)		No. of Markets sanctioned		Amount of Central Assistance Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	
		Primary Rural Markets	Secondary Markets	Total	Primary Rural Markets	Secondary Markets	Total	Primary Rural Markets	Secondary Markets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Gujarat	9	6	15	148.00	3	-	3	12.00
2.	Haryana	1	2	3	43.00	-	-	-	-
3.	Karnataka	2	1	3	12.00	-	-	-	-
4.	Maharashtra	16	16	32	135.22	2	-	2	7.00
5.	Punjab	-	2	2	28.00	-	-	-	-
6.	Rajasthan	5	6	11	69.00	5	-	5	20.00
7.	Tripura	11	-	11	44.00	-	-	-	-
8.	Uttar Pradesh	10	-	10	40.00	9	-	9	36.00
9.	Meghalaya	-	1	1	20.00	-	-	-	-
		54	34	88	539.22	19	-	19	75.00

Production of Foodgrains

*876. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether uncertainty of rains in Maharashtra has resulted in steep decline in foodgrain production during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to compensate the losses suffered by farmers as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to formulate a long term policy to compensate farmers in case of such uncertainty of rains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) It has been the policy of the Government to help the farmers on case of major losses of crops due to natural calamities like drought, flood etc. A Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is under implementation in the country with the objective of providing financial support to farmers in the event of crop failure due to drought, flood ect. and to restore their credit eligibility for the next season. Further, a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been

constituted which is in operation from 01.04.1990 for each state with Central and State contribution in the ratio of 3:1. The State Governments are fully empowered to undertake relief operations in the wake of natural calamities out of its corpus of CRF.

Production of Oranges

*877. SHRI DHARMANNA MODAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under orange orchards in the country during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the production of oranges in the country during the above period State-wise;

(c) whether any programme has been chalked out to improve the quality of oranges and to increase area under cultivation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b), The information is given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d). The following programmes have been taken up during VIII Plan period under citrus development which includes oranges also. The programmes of rejuvenation and demonstration will improve the quality of oranges besides increasing production.

Component	Physical	Financial (Rs. in Lakh)
i. Rejuvenation of citrus orchards	23550 ha.	486.72
ii. Establishment of demonstration 251 plots	60.24	
iii. Area expansion	750 ha.	190.27

STATEMENT

State-wise Area & Production of orange

Area in Hectate

Production in M. T.

S.No.	State	Area		Prod.		Area		Prod.	
		(1990-91)		(1990-91)		(1991-92)		(1991-92)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Assam	5330	55000	4569	45996				
2.	Maharashtra	38000	208000	62353	275241				
3.	Manipur	1800	4100	1500	5750				
4.	Mizoram	NA	NA	5061	15664				
5.	Punjab	21718	217180	22932	229320				
6.	Rajasthan	1888	10195	5128	25640				
7.	Sikkim	NA	NA	6300	16500				
8.	Tamil Nadu	2880	49000	3055	62650				
9.	Tripura	7012	34300	7639	36500				
10.	West Bengal	2200	23000	2410	20940				

NA - Not Available

Mining Activities in Doon Valley

*878. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH:
SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Another assault on Doon's ecology by the mining lobby" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated April 5, 1993;

(b) if so, whether despite declaration of Doon Valley as an ecology fragile zone and a ban put on mining in the area threats to the Valley's fragile environment continue;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have received any representations in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

From the point of view of maintaining environmental conservation and ecological balance in the eco-fragile Doon Valley, Government have issued a notification in February 1989 under Section 3(2) (v) of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rule 5(3) (d) of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 restricting location of industries, mining operations and other development activities in this valley.

As on date, only two limestone mines are

permitted to continue their operation in the Dehradun area as per the directions of Supreme Court.

The news-item referred in part (a) mentions about denudation of forests under the pretext of auction work. This fully comes under the pretext of auction work. This fully comes under the purview of State Government and needs to be strictly regulated as laid down under the existing laws in this regard. The States Government has already been advised to ensure that no such unauthorised activities are permitted in the area.

A representation has been received in the Ministry of Mines from the lakh a Madal Villagers in Dehradun District regarding unauthorised mining in the area. It is under consideration in consultation with state Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Admission in Primary Schools

*879. DR. S. P. YADAV:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of Children do not get admission in primary schools because of non-production of birth certificates particularly by those belonging to backward and slum areas;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any machinery to assess the percentage of Children who are refused admission in primary education; annually;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps contemplated by the Government to simplify the condition for registration of students in primary education to achieve the goal universalisation of Primary education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) Admissions in Primary schools are regulated by State Government/UT Administrations. Normally the affidavit given by parents is accepted by schools while admitting children in primary schools. The Central Government has not received complaints in this regard. As such no assessment has been made regarding percentage of children having been refused admission in primary schools for non-production of birth certificates.

Regeneration of Degraded Forests

*880. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA
PATTANAYAK:
SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the approximate forest area degraded in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the target fixed by the Government to regenerate such degraded forests during each of the last two years and for 1993-94, State-wise;

(c) the achievements made in this regard, State-wise; and

(d) the further steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The State-wise details of the degraded forest area (crown density less than 40%) in the country is given in the attached Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Afforestation/tree planting are continuing activities, undertaken in the states on an annual basis depending upon the availability of funds under the Central and State plans. These activities are undertaken on degraded public lands, including forest lands as well as the degraded private wastelands, in the country. The State-wise targets and achievements of the afforestation/tree planting activities under the 20 point programme for the year 1991-92, 1992-93 and the State-wise targets proposed for the year 1993-94 are given in attached statement -II.

(d) It is expected that the coverage would be enlarged during the Eighth Five Year Plan. The strategy aims at regeneration of degraded forest areas through greater focus on natural regeneration and protection as well as enlisting people participation, harnessing inputs of science and technology and achieving inter-disciplinary coordination in programme planning and implementation.

STATEMENT-I

Statewise Details of Degraded Forest Area (Crown Density less than 40%)

(Area in '00 Hactares)

I. No.	State/UTs		Degraded Forest	
	1	2	3	
1.		Andhra Pradesh	21874	
2.		Arunachal Pradesh	14215	
3.		Assam	8909	
4.		Bihar	13383	
5.		Goa	254	
6.		Gujarat	5286	
7.		Haryana	184	
8.		Himachal Pradesh	2869	
9.		Jammu & Kashmir	9078	
10.		Karnataka	7343	
11.		Kerala	1871	
12.		Madhya Pradesh	40400	

(Area in '00 Hactares)

I. No.	State/UTs	Degraded Forest
1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	17759
14.	Manipur	12376
15.	Meghalaya	12570
16.	Mizoram	14574
17.	Nagaland	10790
18.	Orissa	19661
19.	Punjab	862
20.	Rajasthan	9808
21.	Sikkim	630
22.	Tamil Nadu	7909
23.	Tripura	3710
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10960
25.	West Bengal	2515

(Area in '00 Hactares)

I. No.	State/UTs	Degraded Forest
1	2	3
26.	A & N Island	68
27.	Chandigarh	1
28.	D & N Island	68
29.	Daman & Diu	2
30.	Delhi	22
31.	Lakshadweep	-
32.	Pondicherry	-
		249930

* - The State of Forest Report 1991.

STATEMENT-II

Statement Showing Statewise Targets and Achievements of Afforestation/Tree Planting Activities under the 20-Point Programme during 1991-92, 1992-93 & Proposed Targets for 1993-94.

		1991-92				Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs	
Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Target		Achievement		Seedling Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedling Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands	Area (Public lands including forest lands)		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1600.00	3000.00	1775.91	56590.00		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00	1000.00	7.92	7860.00		
3.	Assam	100.00	42.00	8.68	19458.00		
4.	Bihar	700.00	50000.00	837.00	46333.00		
5.	Goa	50.00	1200.00	22.57	1466.65		
6.	Gujarat	2400.00	73000.00	2511.86	63480.00		
7.	Haryana	300.00	45000.00	271.30	31551.00		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	150.00	57500.00	72.70	35784.00		
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	150.00	10000.00	75.00	1517.61		
10.	Karnataka	900.00	50000.00	437.17	34705.54		

Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	1991-92		Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs	
		Target		Achievement	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedling Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Kerala	250.00	41000.00	137.38	11593.96
12.	Madhya Pradesh	600.00	95000.00	614.60	103151.00
13.	Maharashtra	1230.00	125000.00	1101.61	151255.86
14.	Manipur	25.00	13000.00	13.045	8363.00
15.	Meghalaya	150.00	18000.00	75.00	18991.00
16.	Mizoram	100.00	11000.00	60.23	11447.00
17.	Nagaland	50.00	11000.00	109.19	7540.00
18.	Orissa	500.00	57000.00	*428.52	58389.80
19.	Punjab	150.00	13000.00	151.29	16987.00
20.	Rajasthan	350.00	83500.00	330.59	85050.00
21.	Sikkim	50.00	8000.00	6.00	6163.29
22.	Tamil Nadu	800.00	54000.00	1013.84	68144.00
23.	Tripura	50.00	11000.00	27.68	14074.16

1991-92		Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs			
Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Target		Achievement	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedling Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3400.00	9000.00	3192.47	89565.11
25.	West Bengal	850.00	45000.00	846.00	47540.00
26.	A & Islands	5.00	3600.00	5.23	2842.00
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	300.00	0.04	3.00
28.	D & N Haveli	20.00	1000.00	3.00	120.00
29.	Daman & Diu	1.00	200.00	0.54	117.40
30.	Delhi	50.00	1500.00	44.89	1632.40
31.	Lakshadweep	5.00	100.00	2.95	50.00
32.	Pondicherry	4.00	100.00	10.61	88.72
Total		15000.00	1050000.00	14194.81	1015714.10

1992-93		Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs			
Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Target		Achievement (Tentive)	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedling Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1850.00	63450.00	1095.47	42770.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	7200.00	5.00	7500.00
3.	Assam	600.00	48000.00	180.60	20357.00
4.	Bihar	25.00	1500.00	26.31	1594.00
5.	Goa	2500.00	7000.00	1945.12	68144.00
6.	Gujarat	90.00	32500.00	88.59	31280.00
7.	Haryana	50.00	2000.00	20.00	6696.49
8.	Himachal Pradesh	555.00	38500.00	374.38	36479.97
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	160.00	25000.00	159.38	7367.48
10.	Karnataka	600.00	110000.00	561.21	121394.19
11.	Kerala	250.00	41000.00	137.38	11593.96

Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	1992-93				Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs			
		Target		Achievement (Tentative)		Seedling Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands		Area (Public lands including forest lands)	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	7	8	9	10
12.	Madhya Pradesh	600.00	95000.00	614.60	103151.00				
13.	Maharashtra	1150.00	163000.00	809.08	153680.00				
14.	Manipur	25.00	9000.00	19.58	6695.00				
15.	Meghalaya	125.00	18000.00	26.58	5148.00				
16.	Mizoram	10.00	12000.00	2.40	12000.00				
17.	Nagaland	110.00	5850.00	-	-				
18.	Orissa	500.00	60000.00	425.18	73616.58				
19.	Punjab	70.00	17000.00	85.90	19360.00				
20.	Rajasthan	350.00	65000.00	389.90	60223.00				
21.	Sikkim	15.00	8000.00	9.50	8665.38				
22.	Tamil Nadu	875.00	6500.00	878.62	82784.00				
23.	Tripura	50.00	1600.00	37.05	15253.00				

1992-93		Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs			
Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Target		Achievement (Tentative)	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedling Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	7	8	9	10
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3390.00	90000.00	3323.66	88391.21
25.	West Bengal	1000.00	50000.00	802.00	50000.00
26.	A & Islands	5.00	3200.00	5.33	3200.00
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	400.00	0.12	413.30
28.	D & N Haveli	10.00	1000.00	7.90	518.00
29.	Daman & Diu	1.00	100.00	1.14	83.34
30.	Delhi	50.00	2000.00	38.74	1408.70
31.	Lakshadweep	3.00	50.00	3.36	50.00
32.	Pondicherry	1.00	200.00	5.04	0.00
Total		14500.00	1064000.00	11641.94	982085.24

1993-94		Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs	
Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Target	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1950.00	70000.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	7500.00
3.	Assam	30.00	27500.00
4.	Bihar	750.00	50000.00
6.	Gujarat	30.00	1800.00
7.	Haryana	2750.00	80000.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	350.00	40000.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	100.00	36000.00
10.	Karnataka	80.00	20000.00
11.	Kerala	600.00	42500.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	180.00	25000.00
13.	Maharashtra	700.00	130000.00

1993-94		Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs	
Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Target	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	11	12
14.	Manipur	1200.00	170000.00
15.	Meghalaya	30.00	9500.00
16.	Mizoram	125.00	19000.00
17.	Nagaland	15.00	14000.00
18.	Orissa	120.00	7500.00
19.	Punjab	550.00	75000.00
20.	Rajasthan	80.00	18000.00
21.	Sikkim	400.00	72000.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	18.00	8500.00
23.	Tripura	1000.00	86000.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	50.00	17700.00
25.	West Bengal	3700.00	100000.00

1993-94		Area in hectares Seedlings in lakhs	
Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Target	
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1	2	11	12
26.	A & Islands	6.00	3500.00
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	500.00
28.	D & N Haveli	12.00	1100.00
29.	Daman & Diu	1.00	150.00
30.	Delhi	60.00	2000.00
31.	Lakshadweep	4.00	50.00
32.	Pondicherry	4.00	50.00
	Total	16000.00	1190000.00

(@) = Revised Targets.

Note:- From the year 1990-91, targets are being set (and consequently achievements being reported) in terms of two mutually exclusive items, i.e. "seedlings distribution" for planting on private lands and "area coverage" for public lands, including forest lands. Prior to that, the achievement was assessed in terms of area coverage only.

Computer Software Developed by NAL

7426. SHRIMANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL) Bangalore has undertaken project for preparing the computer software to streamline aircraft landings and take-off at London airports;

(b) if so, the road features thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to streamline aircraft landings and take-offs at Delhi airports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b) • The National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL), Bangalore was awarded the first stage of a three-stage contract by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of the United Kingdom to developing a computer model that will help in national specification of separation distance between successive aircraft landings and take offs from Heathrow and other airports. National Aeronautical laboratory has successfully completed the first stage and suggested a detailed computer model. The soft-ware is intended to enhance operational safety levels at airfields and maximize utilization of their capacity.

(c) and (d) A project has been under-taken to modernise Air Traffic Services at Delhi and Bombay airports at a cost of Approximately Rs.350 crores. The project envisages inter-all installation of modern navigational aids like Airports Surveillance Radar (ASR), Air Route Surveillance Radar (ARSR), Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar (MSSR), very High Frequency Omni Range (VORs), Instrument Landing System (ILS), Distance Measuring

Equipment (DME), Flight Data Processing System (FDPS), Radar Data Processing system (RDPS) and Automatic Self Briefing system (ASBS). This will enhance the capability of the Airport to handle 30 to 35 aircraft movement per hour.

[Translation]

Construction of Motels and Yatri Niwas U.P.

7428. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of motels and Yatri Niwas constructed with the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to Uttar Pradesh Government during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(b) the total financial assistance provided to the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b) The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned the following projects to the State Government of U.P.:-

1990-91	(Rs. in lakhs)
<i>1 Construction of motel at:</i>	
1. Bhaniawala	5.66
2. Agrakhal	5.45
3. Bhatta	5.89
4. Chiniyali	6.77
5. Damta	6.77
6. Kaldungi	8.88
7. Morakhan, Pithoragarh	8.88

1990-91	(Rs. in lakhs)
8. Shikohabad	11.09
9. Devsthal	8.87
10 Saknidhar	6.10
11 Kethikhan	8.87
12 Daula Devi	8.87

*II Yatri Niwas at Malderpur**1991-92*

1. Yatri Niwas at Ayodhya	27.47
2. Yatri Niwas at Chitrakoot	35.74

No project of motel or Yatri Niwas has been sanctioned during 1992-93.

[English]

Postal Services in A.P.

7429. SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal services have been provided to all the villages and town in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if not, the number of villages and towns separately where postal services provided so far, and the number of villages and towns to which the services are yet to be provided;

(c) whether there is any lack of postal services in comparison to other States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the such services in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No Sir. A post office in Andhra Pradesh was serving an average area of 16.96 sq. kms and an average population of 4092 (according to 1991 Census) Whereas the all India averages were 21.9 sq. kms. and 5827 respectively as on 31.3.1992.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) Under Annual plan 1992-93, 6 extra departmental branch post offices and 9 departmental sub post offices have been sanctioned in the State. Under Annual Plan 1993-94, 17 extra departmental branch post offices and 5 departmental sub post offices have been provided for.

Consumption of Coal by Indraprastha Power Station, Delhi

7430. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the details of the total quantity of coal purchased and consumed during the last two years by Indraprastha power station, Delhi, month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): The details of total quantity of coal purchased and consumed by Indraprastha Power Station, Delhi during 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing receipts and consumption of coal at Indraprastha Thermal Power Station of DESU for the year 1991-92 and 1992-93.

(Figure in '000' Tonnes)

S.No.	Month	1991-92		1992-93	
		Receipts	Consumption	Receipts	Consumption
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	April	105	92	68	82
2.	May	92	101	81	98
3.	June	97	92	94	99
4.	July	102	102	112	100
5.	August	89	75	116	94
6.	September	89	88	101	90
7.	October	77	75	104	75
8.	November	80	91	90	59
9.	December	91	100	106	81
10.	January	114	130	71	84
11.	February	114	118	92	76
12.	March	111	113	59	90
Total		1161	1177	1094	1028

[Translation]

Pulse Processing Mills In Gujarat

7431. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether mills for processing of pulses have been set-up in Gujarat;

(b) whether sufficient provisions have been made under the National Pulse Development Scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the efforts made by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir. Mills for processing of pulses have been set up in Gujarat.

(b) to (d), The National Pulses Development Project is being implemented in 26 States including Gujarat and Union territories of Delhi & Goa. Under this scheme, farmers will be entitled to get 50% of the cost as subsidy for the purchase of Dal Processors subject to a maximum of Rs. 4,000/-. During 1993-94 a provision of Rs. 6.70 lakhs has been made under this scheme, out of which Government of India's share is Rs. 5.00 lakhs. No proposals in this respect have been received so far and therefore, no comments on the adequacy on this amount can be offered.

Revenue and Expenditure in Post and Telegraph Services in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

7432. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of revenue earned by the Government from the services pertaining to telephone, post and telegraph services separately in Rohtas, Jhabua and Chapra districts in Bihar and Salempur in Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93; and

(b) the extent of amount spent on each of the above services separately district-wise during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) Rohtas and Bhabhua (Not Jhabua) Districts (in Bihar) are under Telecom Engineering Division at Sasaram. Since separate Region wise accounts are not maintained there the amount of revenue earned by Telephones and the amount spent on these services are not available separately. The amount of revenue earned by Telephones and the amount spent on these services at Salempur (Uttar Pradesh) which is under Azamgarh Taluk Division are also not available. Separate figures of revenue earned by posts and the amount spent on these services are also not available since there is only a subpost office at Salempur (U.P.) There is no Telegraph office at Salempur (U.P.).

The amount of revenue earned by Telephones, Posts and Telegraph Services in Rohtas, Bhabhua and Chapra Districts in Bihar are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Telephone	Posts	Telegraph
Rohtas	57	37	2
Bhabhua		58	1
Chapra	71	53	6

(b) The amount spent on each on the above services separately during the above period are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Telephone	Posts	Telegraph
Rohtas	53	135	3
Bhabhua		147	2
Chapra	89	287	18

[English]

TV Transmitters/Transposers in Assam

7433. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of TV Transmitters/transposers functioning in Assam at present;

(b) whether these transmitters cover the entire population in the State; and

(c) if not the steps being taken to cover cent per cent population in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) (a) and (b) 3 high power, 8 low power TV transmitters and 2 TV transposers are at present functioning in the State of Assam providing TV service to an estimated 80.8% population of the State.

(c) where as extension of TV service to the remaining uncovered parts of the State can be carried out in a phased manner depending upon availability of resources for the purpose, about 85.6% population of the State is expected to be brought under TV coverage on commissioning of 1 high power, 4 low power and 1 very low power TV transmitters presently under implementation / envisaged to be set up in the State.

Telephone to Hospital in Andhra Pradesh

7434. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hospitals in Andhra Pradesh where free telephones have been provided so far;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide this facility during 1993-94; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) Sir, the number of major and district hospitals in Andhra Pradesh where free telephones have been provided so far is 41.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Free telephone facility will be provided at all district and major hospitals in the cities.

Functioning of Rural Post Offices in M.P.

7435. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) the number of post offices in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh and the number of post offices, out of them, without departmental buildings;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding improper functioning of these post offices; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the postal services in rural areas of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 524 departmental and 9567 extra-departmental post offices in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh. The number of departmental post offices not having departmental buildings (and working in rented accommodation) is 374. In the case of extra-departmental offices, branch postmasters are required to provide accommodation by themselves and no departmental buildings are constructed for such offices.

(b) and (c). No public complaints have been received about improper functioning on account of the post offices being housed in rented buildings.

[English]

Merger of Naa With IAAI

7436 • SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2760 on July 27, 1992 and state:

(a) the stage at which the proposal stands at present;

(b) the reasons for the merger; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b). Government have decided, in principle, to merge National Airports Authority and International Airports Authority of India. The modalities of merger are being worked out. The reasons for merger are as follows:-

(i) better coordination by a single authority;

(ii) optimal utilisation of resources to promote integrated development of airports infrastructure in all aspects including Air Traffic Control and Communication Systems;

(iii) generation of larger resources through integrated management by a single authority;

(iv) better utilisation of expertise in airport design, planning and pooling of management resources for improved efficiency.

(c) A Bill to bring about the merger is currently being drafted and would be presented to Parliament in due course.

[Translation]

Power Projects in Bihar

7437. MOHAMAD ALI ASHRAF
FATMI:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in the implementation of power projects due to gas supply and acquisition of lands in Bihar;

(b) if so, the names of such projects;

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed the wasteful expenditure incurred on these projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (f). Amongst the projects whose implementation has been delayed due to difficulties in acquisition of land are Koel Karo Hydro-Electric Project (4x172.5+1x20 MW) of NHPC and Tenukhat TPP-I (2x210 MW) of BSEB. No project is delayed due to gas supply.

The State Government and the Government of India are closely monitoring the projects and taking the requisite steps to overcome the drawbacks.

[English]

Power Finance Corporation

7438. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds raised by the Power Finance Corporation, source-wise during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and projections for 1993-94; and

(b) the total amount earned and total interest paid thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total amount of funds raised by the Power Finance Corporation, source-wise, during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and projects for 1993-94 are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Source	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	Projections for 1993-94
(i) Equity contribution by Govt. of India.	220.05	125.00	10.00	75.00
(ii) Bonds	620.00	322.00	14.51	595.00
(iii) Foreign Loans	113.28	336.89	94.45	7.78
(iv) Public Deposits	-	1.43	11.12	15.00
(v) Loans from Govt. of India (World Bank/ ADB Loans)	953.33	785.32	130.08	737.78

(b) The total amount earned including interest etc. on loans to borrowers as well as interest on

investment/deposits and the total interest paid during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Amount Earned	230.51	320.78	420.86
Interest paid	124.87	148.91	209.15

Telephone Directory in west Bengal

plied;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

7439. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(d) the time by which it is likely to be published and supplied?

(a) whether the latest telephone directory of West Bengal has been published;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) to (d). The details regarding publication of Telephone Directories in West Bengal are as follows:

(b) if so when and the names of places for which directories have been published and supplied;

(1) Malda SSA	-	December, 92
(2) Berhampur SSA	-	November, 92
(3) Port Blair SSA	-	October, 92
(4) Bankura SSA	-	October,
(5) Kharagpur SSA	-	February, 92
(6) Calcutta SSA	-	January, 93
(7) Jalpaiguri SSA	-	December, 92
(8) Krishnagar SSA	-	March, 93
(9) Calcutta Telecom District	-	April, 89
(10) Siliguri SSA	-	December, 88
(11) Asansol SSA	-	January, 90
(12) Gangtok SSA	-	July, 89

However, in respect of Calcutta Telecom District, Siliguri, Asansol and Gangtok, there is some delay in publication of latest telephone

Directory, due to failure on the part of the printer and efforts are being made to bring out new telephone directories during 1993-94.

Food Processing Industries in M.P.

7440. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have made/propose to make any assessment regarding potentiality of the state of Madhya Pradesh for the setting up of food processing industries; and

(b) if so, the details/salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Under the plans schemes formulated by the Ministry for the 8th Five Year Plan, financial assistance is provided to State Govt./organisation/academic bodies, recognised organization of the industry etc. for conducting studies to assess the potential for setting up food processing industries in various States/region. No such proposal has, however, been received so far from Madhya Pradesh in this regard.

Hub and Spoke Scheme

7441. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given approval to the Hub and Spoke scheme formulated by the Air India in collaboration with Vayudoot;

(b) whether any special training has been imparted to the crew the ground staff of the Air India and the Vayudoot in this regard;

(c) the total expenditure incurred thereon; and

(d) by when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir, Such commercial arrangements do not require Government approval.

(b) and (c). Air India has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 9 lakhs (approx.) for training Vayudoot Personnel. Vayudoot has incurred expenditure on T.A/D.A of its staff.

(d) No definite date can be indicated at this preliminary stage.

Generation of Passengers of Cargo Traffic

7442. SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the total business of passengers and cargo traffic generated by the Indian Airline, Air India and Vayudoot during each of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Carriage of passengers and cargo by Air India, Indian Air-lines and Vayudoot during 1990-91 and 1991-92 is given below:

	1990-91	1991-92
<i>Air India</i>	21,61,364	20,04,487
<i>Cargo</i>	95,211 (tonnes)	75,261 (tonnes)
<i>Indian Airlines</i>		
<i>Passenger</i>	78,65,1819	88,85,600
<i>Cargo (including excess baggage)</i>	100,591 (tonnes)	98,141 (tonnes)

		1990-91	1991-92
Vayudoot			
Passengers	-	4,42,00	3,05,00
Cargo	-	Negligible	negligible

Collection of Parking Charges by Air Taxi Operatores

7443. SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected by the Government towards parking charges from the air taxi operators, month-wise and operator-wise at Bombay, Delhi Madras and Calcutta airports;

(b) whether the rate chargeable as parking charges and landing charges to the private Air Taxi operators is the same as chargeable to the Indian Airlines; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pilots Joining Singapore Airlines

7444. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India have any understanding with Singapore Airlines for not employing its crew members until N.C.C. is obtained from Air India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No,

Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Alleged Mal practies in ITDC

7445. SHRI SHANKARAO D. KALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'pilferage rampant in restaurant's appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 13, 1993;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The News item relates to the losses suffered by ITDC due to pilferage in the Restaurants of some of ITDC Hotels, alleged assault on offices, of ITDC, mis-appropriation of expenditure tax by some employees of the Janpath Hotel, etc.

(c) Minor cases of pilferage by the staff of the Restaurants of some of the ITDC Hotels have come to the notice of the Management from time to time. The cases of pilferage are investigated by the Vigilance Division of the Hotels. On the basis of investigations, disciplinary authorities take suitable action against the erring employees.

As regards the alleged assault on Offices,

ITDC has investigated the matter and necessary disciplinary action against the erring employees is in progress.

Four employees of Hotel Janpath are alleged to have been involved in the transaction of mis-appropriation of the cash of the said hotel. The case has been handed over to the Crime Branch of Delhi Police for investigation.

Irrigation Projects During Eighth Plan

7446. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken decision for not taking up any new irrigation projects during Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the programme of the Government with regard to the ongoing irrigation projects; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d). The Eighth Plan strategy inter-alia envisages that completion of ongoing projects with a strict prioritisation will be the first charge on funds under major and medium irrigation sector. No new projects will be included unless the needs of the ongoing projects are fully met, and if at all done, these should be restricted

to medium schemes bedefitting tribal and drought prone areas. The Tenth National Conference of Water Resources and Irrigation Ministers of States and Union Territories held on 21.9.1992, inter-alia also recommended that in view of the resource crunch, thin spreading of funds should be avoided and projects in advanced stage of construction should be allocated full requirement of funds to ensure their completion in the 8th Plan Period.

Arrival of Foreign Tourist

7447 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be please to state:

(a) the names of major originating countries which account for at least one per cent of the total foreign tourists arrivals;

(b) the names of major originating countries which have registered a higher rate of increase;

(c) the names of major originating countries with a lower rate during this period; and

(d) whether any special steps have been taken to promote tourism from those countries which are showing a declining trend?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) to (c). The tourist arrivals from the countries which accounted for at least one per cent of the total arrivals to India during the year 1992 and their comparisons with the previous year are as follows:-

<i>Country of Nationality</i>	<i>Tourist 1991</i>	<i>Arrivals 1992</i>	<i>%change 1992/91</i>
Spain	13,644	24,850	82.1
Netherlands	19,845	30,145	51.9
U.S.A.	417,322	152,268	29.8
Japan	46,533	60,137	28.9
Italy	41,129	51,136	24.9

<i>Country of Nationality</i>	<i>Tourist 1991</i>	<i>Arrivals 1992</i>	<i>%change 1992/91</i>
Singapore	28,363	35,039	24.3
C.I.S.	32,432	39,409	21.5
Canda	36,142	43,386	20.0
Australia	22,700	26,646	17.4
Germany	272,019	84,422	17.2
Nepal	21,834	25,244	15.6
U.P.	212,052	244,236	15.2
Malayasia	30,617	35,201	15.0
S.Arabia	21,114	23,255	10.1
U.A.E.	28,860	31,709	9.9
France	69,346	74,304	7.1
Sri Lanka	70,088	278,935	2.6
Switzerland	29,247	28,651	-1.4
Bangladesh	251,260	246,589	-1.9
Pakistan	190,128	186,325	-2.0

(d) Publicity efforts in Europe including Switzerland have been augmented to attract more tourists from the region. There are however, no promotion efforts in the case of Bangladesh and Pakistan.

(d) the time by which the work of the proposed project is likely to be started; and

(e) the mode of its financing?

Power Project at Umred, Maharashtra

7448. SHRI RAMCHANDRA MARTRAO GHANGARE: Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up thermal power station at Umred (Nagpur) in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project;

(c) the estimated power to be generated herefrom;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (e). A proposal to set up a thermal power station with a capacity of 2x210 MW at Umred (Nagpur District) had been mooted by the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) which was returned to it by the Central Electricity Authority returned to it by the Central Electricity Authority for tying up of essential inputs and for submission of a revised feasibility report which is still awaited. The cost, capacity, commissioning schedule and mode of financing of the project are expected to be indicated in the revised proposals of MSEB.

[Translation]

[English]

**Branch Post Offices in Darbhanga and
Madhubani Distt, Bihar;**

7449. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open branch post offices in villages of Darbhanga and Madhubani districts of Bihar during 1993 particularly in Thumol in Darbhanga and Chahuta and Kapadia in Madhubani?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) to (d). The Government propose to open branch post offices in villages of Darbhanga and Madhubani districts during Annual Plan 1993-94. An extra Departmental Branch Post Office is already functioning at Thumol in Darbhanga district. Post Offices are proposed to be opened in the villages Chahuta and Kapadia of Madhubani district in 1993-94 provided the norms prescribed by the Government are fulfilled.

Export of Processed Grapes

7450. DR. R. MALLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the countries to which grapes are being exported during the last three years,

(b) the quantity of processed and packed grapes exported during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of these three years;

(d) the average per ton return to farmers from these export;

(e) whether any cost benefit ratio has been worked out for grapes exported and grapes sold in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The requisite details are given in the attached statement

(d) Packed grapes were exported at an average price of Rs. 1670 per Metric Ton during the year 1991-92.

(e) and (f). The cost benefit ratio has not been worked out for grapes exported and grapes sold in the country by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

STATEMENT

Year	Name of the country to which exported	Quantity exported (Kgs.)	Value (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1989-90	U.A.E.	2178226.50	34762573.00
	Saudi Arabia	1051527.50	18427035.00
	Bahrain	239258.00	3348025.00
	Kuwait	178338.00	2725421.00
	Bangladesh	102089.00	1296199.00
	Qatar	60625.00	1168842.00
	Oman	29798.50	583128.50
	United Kindom	1125.00	21210.00
	Maldives	750.00	11250.00
	Singapore	501.00	7280.00
	Total	3842238.50	62350963.50
1990-91	United Arab Emirates	3779517	65141200
	Bangladesh	775025	7875400

(Figure in '000' Tonnes)

S.No.	Month	1991-92		1992-93	
		Receipts	Consumption	Receipts	Consumption
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Saudi Arabia	335578		5335500	
	Bahrain	221771		3830300	
	Yamen Arab Republic	14820		296400	
	Qatar	84707		1017300	
	Kuwait	42147		630500	
	Oman	43495		590400	
	Singapore	16125		217600	
	Mauritius	12887		201100	
	United Kingdom	12920		168800	
	Hong Kong	3439		50000	
	Malaysia	2669		47900	
	German Demo. Rep.	1211		26900	
	France	500		13300	

(Figure in '000' Tonnes)

S.No.	Month	1991-92		1992-93	
		Receipts	Consumption	Receipts	Consumption
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Maldives		557	12500	
	U.S.A.		350	2600	
	Total	5347718		88125300	
1991-92	United Arab Emirates	6781179.00		123296208.00	
	Saudi Arabia	1884889.00		28646095.00	
	United Kingdom	271586.00		10459418.00	
	Bangladesh	1196987.00		9275241.00	
	Bahrain	562692.00		8057866.00	
	Kuwait	228664.00		3140176.00	
	Oman	102095.00		1431009.00	
	Qatar	85194.00		1308280.00	
	Mauritius	19090.00		386563.00	
	U.S.A.	6837.00		127825.00	

(Figure in '000' Tonnes)

S.No.	Month	1991-92		1992-93	
		Receipts	Consumption	Receipts	Consumption
1	2	3	4	5	6
	U.S.S.R.		2850.00	24760.00	
	Germany		1435.00	20190.00	
	Maldives		808.00	15290.00	
	Hong Kong		680.00	9364.00	
	Switzerland		360.00	6610.00	
	Malaysia		250.00	5000.00	
	Canada		235.00	4502.00	
	Nepal		250.00	4000.00	
	Italy		197.00	1690.00	
	Brazil		280.00	1680.00	
	Total		1114758.00	186228067.00	

**Central Water and Power Research
Station, Pune**

7451. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have taken the decision changing the status of Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune into a register society; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). With a view to increase the utility and efficacy of the Institution, a proposal has been initiated to convert Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune into an autonomous organisation as registered society. However the proposal is at an initial stage and concerned Ministries/Departments are being consulted in the matter.

**Clearance of Irrigation Projects of Tamil
Nadu**

7452. SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the irrigation projects of Tamil Nadu in respect of which clearance is pending with the Government;

(b) the time by which clearance is likely to be given in each case; and

(c) the present status of the Shanbaga Thoppu dam in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K.

THUNGON): (a) Out of two major and one medium irrigation projects at the Center, after completion of techno-economic examination, one major project namely Modernisation of Cauvery Delta Phase-I estimated to cost Rs. 78.80 crores and envisaging irrigation benefits of 70,000 hectares (ha.) has been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in May, 1989 subject to the clearance from inter-State angle. One major project namely, Parambikulam Aliyar Ayacut Extension Project estimated to cost Rs. 30.32 crores and envisaging irrigation benefits of 70850 hectares and one medium project namely, Modernisation of Annathanar Channel (Kodyar System) estimated to cost Rs. 4.96 crores and envisaging irrigation benefits of 8910 hectares have been completed. While the technical note in case of the former has been sent to the Planning Commission, in case of later project State Government is required to convey concurrence of its Finance Department.

(b) The clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Central appraising agencies, obtains environmental and/or forests clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and clearance on rehabilitation and resettlement plans from the Ministry of Welfare if the project involves submergence of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe populations.

(c) Shanbaga Thoppu Dam Project has not been received at the Center for techno-economic appraisal.

[Translation]

**Telephone Connections in Addition to
M.P.'s Quota**

7453. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone connections have been released on the recommendations of some Members of Parliament in addition to their pre-

scribed quota during 1992;

(b) if so, the details with reasons thereof;

(c) the number of telephone connections sanctioned in Delhi and out-side Delhi, separately;

(d) whether Government propose to provide this concession to the remaining Members of Parliament also during this year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) to (c). Sir, 15 out of turn priority telephone connections per calendar year are only sanctioned on the basis of recommendations of each Member of Parliament. However, at the recommendations of some Members of Parliament, telephone connections were also sanctioned on out of turn basis in 1992, on merits by the then Minister of State (Communications) and the Dy Minister (Communications) within their discretionary powers.

(d) No, Sir. However, individual cases may be considered on merits.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

Bogus Passport

7454. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding issue of bogus passports from the Bareilly Passport Office; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) From time to time Government

have received complaints regarding various individuals having obtained passports fraudulently from various passport Offices, including Bareilly.

(b) Wherever substantiating details are available, necessary action is taken under the law.

Alleged Irregularities in ITDC

7455. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:
SHRI MANORANJAN SUR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4534 on December 21, 1992 and state the latest position of the investigation made so far in regard to the alleged irregularities in the India Tourism Development Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) ITDC has charge-sheeted the delinquent official and initiated a regular departmental enquiry.

[Translation]

Exemption of Hullers from Licensing

7456. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether licensing is mandatory for all categories of rice shellers/rice mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the categories of huller included under this purview;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to exempt small hullers including polesh set up in rural areas from this purview of licensing;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Licence is compulsory for setting up of any category of rice mill under Rice Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958 & Rules 1959.

(c) All categories of hullers are included under the Act.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) It is essential to control the percentage of rice lost due to polishing at the time of milling, since it has a considerable impact on the overall availability of rice in the country. It is also necessary to lay down norms for rice milling machinery in order to avoid production of inferior quality rice and by-products. For these reasons, the Government has decided not to exempt the small hullers including polish machines set up in rural areas from the purview of licensing.

Hydro-Electric Power Project in Madhya Pradesh

7457. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for setting up of new hydro-electric power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of proposals pending for approval; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be

cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The details of Hydro-electric Schemes received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh are as under:-

I. Hydro-electric Schemes under consideration of the Union Government

1. Marhikheda Hydro-electric Project (2x20 MW) (with a provision of one more unit of 20 MW to be installed at later date).

2. Omkareshwar Multipurpose Project (8x65 MW)

3. Gandhisagar Power House II Hydro-electric Project (4x40 MW).

4. Hasdeo Bango (3x40 MW)

5. Bansagar Tons Power House IV (2x10 MW)

6. Matnar (2x40 MW)

7. Bodhghat (Indira Sarovar) (4x125 MW)

II. List of HE Schemes returned to the State Government for re-submission, based on the comments of Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission

1. Ortha M.P.P.

2. Kutru I & II

3. Bhopalapatnam (Rejected)

4. Matnar H.E.P.

5. Sopad (Rejected)

(d) The clearance of the power projects depends upon availability of various inputs and clearances such as water availability, clear-

ance from Environmental and forest angles etc.

[English]

Agreements with Moldova

7458. SHRI BOLLABULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESHWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Moldova have signed any agreements to promote closer political and economic relations in various fields including art and culture; and

(b) if so, the salient features of these agreements this and the time by which they are to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The following agreements have been signed with Moldova;

(i) Declaration on Principles and Directions of Cooperation;

(ii) Agreement on Cooperation in Education, Science, Culture, Arts, mass-media, Sports, Tourism and Youth Affairs;

(iii) Protocol of Consultations between MEA and Moldovan Foreign Ministry;

(iv) Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation;

(v) Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation;

(vi) Agreement on cooperation in Science and Technology.

Steps to strengthen our relations with Moldova would be taken in the context of the objectives embodied in the above agreements, which are in force and will enhance mutual cooperation.

Outstanding Dues of ITDC

7459. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total earnings of ITDC hotel during each of the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to collect the outstanding dues of ITDC hotels from the Union Government, various State Governments and public sector undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Necessary information is given as follows: ✓

Year	Total earnings of hotels. (Rs. in lakhs)
1990-91	7703.23
1991-92	8424.43
1992-93 (Prov)	9574.51

(b) Realisation of the outstanding amounts is a continuous process, which includes periodic review of outstanding, regular follow up by way of reminders, personal contacts etc.

[Translation]

International Tourism Conference

7460. SHRI YASHWANTRAOPATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had participated in the International Tourism Conference Organised in

Berlin in March, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism was the nodal agency for organising India's participation in the International Tourism Meet at Berlin. Besides the Department of Tourism, travel agencies, tour operators, hotels and some State Governments also participated. The ITB Berlin is one of the largest International Tourism Fairs where the travel industry meet directly with foreign travel/tour operators to promote tourist traffic to India.

Telecast of Agriculture-Based Programmes

7461. SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a new Doordarshan channel to telecast the agriculture-based programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent on this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) There is no such proposal present.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Telephone Adalats in Delhi

7462. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the telephone adalats

organised by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi so far;

(b) the number of the cases received for settlement; and

(c) the number of the cases out of them settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, Twenty three telephone Adalats have been organised by MTNL, Delhi so far.

(b) A total of 11667 cases were received for settlement.

(c) A total of 11564 cases were settled out of them.

Fire at Bombay Airport

7463. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether fire broke out twice at terminal-2 phase-I of the Bombay airport in 1986 and 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any discrepancy in the conclusions of the Committee constituted for the purpose and the findings of the fire brigade department; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). In 1986 fire broke out in Terminal-2 phase II. The Committee which inquired into the incident attributed the cause of the fire to negligence of the staff of baggage shop. In 1989 there was fire in Terminal-2, phase I. The Committee set up to inquire into the incident could not establish the exact cause of the fire.

(c) and (d). No findings have been received from the City Fire Brigade .

Target for Rural Exchanges in Gujarat

7464. SHRI CHHITUHBAL GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone exchanges set up in rural areas of Gujarat during 1992-93 are less than the targets fixed;

(b) if so, the details with reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve the targets fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. 88 telephone exchanges were opened as against the target of 65 during 1992-93.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Vishnu Prayag Hydroelectric Power Project

7465. SHRI N. K. BALIYAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the works of Vishnu Prayag Hydel Power Project of Uttar Pradesh has been stopped; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Due to funds constraints faced by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the project works are practically at stand-still. Recently, the project has been proposed to be executed in Private Sector and the Project authorities have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Jaiprakash Industries for

execution of the project on turn-key basis.

[English]

Damage-charges for Telephone Instruments by M.T.N.L.

7466. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited recover the damage-charges for the broken instruments from the telephone subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and total amount recovered in this connection during the last three years; and

(c) the number of cases in which those damage-charges have been waived off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Targets for Post and Telegraph Offices in Seventh/Eighth Plan in Orissa

7467. SHRI MRUTYUNAJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details of the targets fixed for opening post and telephone offices in Orissa during the Seventy Five Year Plan;

(b) whether these targets had been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any targets have been fixed for the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b).

Post Offices

District-wise target was not fixed for opening of post offices during the Seventh Five Year Plan. However, a target of 334 post offices for the state of Orissa was fixed. Only 188 post offices could be opened during the 7th Plan.

Telegraph Offices

For opening of Telephone offices in Orissa during Seventh Five Year Plan, the targets for districts were not fixed. However overall target fixed for the state was 610. The details of telegraph offices opened district-wise are given in the attached statement

(c) *Post Offices*

The targets could not be achieved in full due

to the ban on creation of new posts imposed by the Ministry of Finance in January, 1984.

Telegraph Offices

Does not arise

(d) and (e).

Post Offices

A targeted of opening 3000 Extra-Department Branch post Offices and 500 Department Sub Post Offices has been fixed in the 8th Five Year Plan for the country as a whole. State-wise allocation of targets done annually. In the year 1992—93 40 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 8 Departmental Sub Post Offices have been open in Orissa. In 1993-94 it is proposed to open 35 Extra Departmental Branch post offices and 4 Departmental Sub Post Offices in the State.

Telegraph Offices

Based on demand, provision of telegraph facility is planned. Specific number of telegraph offices as target, however, for Eight Five Year Plan has not been fixed.

STATEMENT

District-wise details of the No. of Combined Offices on Long Distance Public Telephones opened during the Seventh Five Year Plan in Orissa.

Name or the District		No.
1		2
1.	Balasore	44
2.	Bolangir	58
3.	Cuttack	91
4.	Dhenkanal	54
5.	Ganjam	51
6.	Kalahandi	46
7.	Keonjhar	59
8.	Koraput	29
9.	Mayurbhanj	37
10.	Puri	69
11.	Phulbani	11
12.	Sambalpur	72
13.	Sundargarh	44

Special Cell for Delhi Telephones

7468. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given on December 21, 1992 to unstarred Question No. 4630 and state:

(a) whether a special cell of CBI under the charge of Superintendent of Police has been set up to investigate the case of leakage of revenue in Delhi Telephones;

(b) whether the cell has submitted its report; and

(c) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). The DOT has taken decision to set up four to be manned by officers of the C.B.I. in the four Metropolitan cities including Delhi for conducting raids detecting malpractices and investigating cases of leakage of revenue and the Ministry of malpractices has been approached for the purpose personnel.

[English]

Japanese Assistance for Thermal Power Plants

7469. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI P. C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Japanese delegation held talks with the Government regarding financial assistance to various power projects recently;

(b) whether any agreements has been signed/arrived at in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of projects proposed to

be assisted;

(d) whether any talks were also held for assistance for Kayamkulam Super Thermal Power Project;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (f). Yes, Sir. The Government of Japan and OECF of Japan are appraising the power projects posed to them for financial assistance by the Government of India for the year 1993-94. The projects posed include Kayamkulam TPS. No final communication on grant of Japanese assistance has been received so far.

Purchase of O.B. Vans for Sport Coverage

7470. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of O.B. vans purchased by Doordarshan exclusively for sport coverage;

(b) whether the O.B. vans were used to cover the recent cricket matches between India and England; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). None of Doordarshan's 17 colour OB vans, procured for multifarious coverages, including sports events, were used in this case as the coverage of these matches was done by the foreign company using its equipment, in terms of the contract awarded to it for this purpose by the BCCI.

Handing over of Power Projects to Private Sector

7471. SHRI PARAKASHV PATIL:
SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI
BHANDARI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have proposed to hand over some power projects to private sector;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) if so, the names of such projects, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAI DU): (a) The Government is implementing a policy to encourage greater participation by private enterprises in power generation, supply and distribution.

(b) The details of the policy are given in the attached statement.

(c) In response to the scheme, 411 intentions have been received, state-wise details of which are given in the attached statements,

(d) does not arise

STATEMENT A

Details of the Policy to Encourage Greater Private Sector Participation in electricity Generation, Supply and Distribution.

1. The following are the details of the scheme to encourage greater private sector participation in the electricity generation, supply and distribution;

2. The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 have been amended to bring about a new legal, administrative and financial environment for private enterprises in the Electricity Sector.

Private Sector can set up thermal projects (coal/gas and hydel projects and wind/solar energy project of any size).

Electricity projects both in Public and private Sector where the total outlay does not exceed Rs. 25 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for concurrence?

Private sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licenses or as generating companies.

All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1. A minimum of 20% of the total outlay should be the equity component. Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.

Not more than 40% of the total outlay can come from Indian Public Financial Institutions.

To ensure that private entrepreneurs bring in additionally of resources to the sector not more than 60% of the total outlay for the project must come from sources other than Public Financial Institutions. Up to hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors.

The condition of dividend balancing by export earnings which is normally being applied to cases of foreign investment upto 51% equity will not be applicable to foreign investments in the power sector.

The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.

With the approval of the Government, im-

port of equipment for power projects will also be permitted in cases where foreign supplier (s) or agency (ies) extend concessional credit.

For generating companies the following incentives are offered:-

Normative parameters under which generating companies will operate (comparable to international standards) providing for 16% rate of return have been notified on 30th March, 1992.

Generating companies can sell power on the basis of a suitably structured two part tariff.

On a case to case basis, Government of India may consider extending a counter guarantee for the payment obligations of State Electricity Boards to the private power companies on the specific request of the concerned State Government.

The specific incentives for Licenses are;

Licences of longer duration of 30 years in the first instance and subsequent renewals of 20 years instead of 20 and 10 years respectively as it was before.

Higher rate of return of 5% in place of the

previous 2% above the RBI rate.

Capitalisation of Interest During Construction (IDC) at actual cost (for expansion projects also) as against 1% over RBI rate as it was before.

Special appropriations to meet debt redemption obligations.

An administrative framework for rapid clearances of Power Projects have put in place:

An Investment Promotion Cell has been set up in the Ministry of Power to provide information and assistance to prospect in entrepreneurs in the electricity sector and take timely action for time bound clearances of the proposals.

A High Powered Board has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary to monitor and provide for faster clearance of private sector power projects and resolve outstanding issues thereof. The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) constituted under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to PM considers all cases of foreign investment into the country, including those in the Power Sector.

STATEMENT 'B'

Details of intendments for Investment in Power Sector from Foreign and Domestic Companies.

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1.	Budge-Budge TPS/ West Bengal	Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1638.00	Calcutta Electric Supply Co.
2.	Bhivpuri PSB Maharashtra	Indian	90.00 (1x90) (Hydro)	89.87	Tata Electric Co.
3.	Pench TPS/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1567.96%	Century Power
4.	Jegrapadu GBPP/ Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NRI)	172.00 (1x112GT + 1x60ST) (Gas)	675.00	GVK Industries USA
5.	Ghanvi HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	22.50 (Hydro)	40.00	Punjab Power Generation Machines Ltd.
6.	Uhi-III HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian (3x23.4) (Hydro)	70.00 (Feb 92)	176.77	Ballarpur Industries Ltd, Delhi.

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
7.	Zero unit (NLC)/ Tamil Nadu	Forgn. (NRI)	210.00 (1x210) (Lig)	750.00	ST Power Systems Inc. (Dec. 91)
8.	Vishakhapatnam TPS/ Andhra Pradesh	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	3000.00 (July 92)	Ashok Leyland & Mission Energy, USA & AFSEB)
9.	Barsingsar TPS/ Rajasthan	Forgn.	240.00 (2x120)	585.73 (Apr 91)	Coleman & Associates (Australian Consortium)
10.	Godavari GBPP/ Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NRI)	200.00 (Gas)	654.85	Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.
11.	Dabhol CCGT/ Maharashtra	Forgn.	1920.00 (Gas)	7800.00	Enron Power Development Corporation & General Electric Corp. USA
12.	Duburi TPS/ Orissa	Forgn. Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1548.00 (Jan 92)	Kalinga Power Corp./ North East Energy Services Inc., USA/ Govt. Of Orissa
13.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	1000.00 (Coal)	2000.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
14.	Hissar TPS/ Haryana	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA
15.	Barge/Ship Mounted/ Maharashtra	Indian	110.00 (1x110) (LSHS)	395.00 (May 92) Co. Ltd.)	Mega Power Pvt. Ltd. (Confidence Shipping Maharashtra)
16.	Sriushnam Lignite TPS/Tamil Nadu	Indian	250.00 (1x250) (Lig)	800.00 (Nov 92)	TICAPCO (G Swamy Associates)
17.	Baspa HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	300.00 (Hydel)	547.00 (June 92)	Jaiprakash Industries LTD.
18.	Chandil TPS/ Bihar	Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1637.00 (Apr 92)	RPG Enterprises
19.	Jayamkonda Lignite TPS/Tail Nadu	Indian/ Forgn.	1500.00 (3x500)	4500.00 (Jan 92) (Lig)	Jayakondam Lignite Power Corporation Ltd. (TIDCO, cnally Bharat Ltd & Siemens)

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
20.	Chittorgarh TPS/ Rajasthan	Indian	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1036.20 (Feb 92)	Century Textiles & Industries Industries Ltd.
21.	Dankuni GBPP/ W. Bengal	Forgn. (NRI)	20.00 (Gas)	40.00 (Jun. 92)	Spectru Technologies
22.	Gandhar GBPP/ Gujarat	Forgn. Indian JV	615.00 (Gas)	2573.00	Gujarat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd.
23.	Green Site	Forgn./ Indian	800.00 (Gas)	1600.00 (Feb 92)	NTPC/ABB Sweden
24.	Gouripore TPS/ West Bengal	Indian	135.00 (Coal)	500.00	Rirla Technical Services
25.	Dandeli (Kalinadi)	Forgn.	60.00 (2x30) (Hydel)	125.00	Caithness Int. Power Corpo. USA
26.	Bedthi HEP/ Karnataka	Forgn.	210.00 (2x105) (Hydel)	350.00	Caithness Int. Power Corpn. USA

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
27.	Almatti Dam HEP/	Forgn. Indian JV	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00 (TaPOD)	Asia Power Co. Ltd. USA, Karnataka Power Corporation
28.	Hospet TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1350.00	Hok International Ltd. USA
29.	Raichur St-V TPS/	Forgn/ Indian JV	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.70	Public Power Int. Inc. (North East Energy) USA, Karnataka Power Corpn.
30.	Chamalapura (Mysore) TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	1000.00 (2x500) or (4x250) (Coal)	3000.00	Public Power Int., Inc., (North East Energy) USA.
31.	Dharwar TPS/ Karnataka	NRI	300.00 (Coal)	600.00	Chalais Holding Ltd., UK.
32.	Shivasaundram HEP/ Karnataka	Forgn./ Indian JV	270.00 (2x135) (Hydel)	151.00	Societa Italians Condotte Acqua, Italy Karnataka Power Corp.

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
33.	Vishnuprayag HE/ Uttar Pradesh	Indian	360.00 (3x120) (Hydro)	612.88 (Mar 86)	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.
34.	Sagardighi TPS/ W. Bengal	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	Developent Consultant Pvt. Ltd., CMS Generation & WESEB
35.	Maheshwar HEP/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian	400.00 (10x40) (Hydel)	602.54	S Kuars
36.	Korba West Extn. U-5&6 TPS/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	977.57	Mukund Ltd. (Mar 92)
37.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1000.00	A E S Corporation. USA
38.	Bhilai Captive TPS/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian/ JV	500.00 (Coal)	1200.00	National Thermal Power Corpn./Steel Authority of of India Ltd.

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
39.	Cuddalore TPS/ Tamil Nadu	Forgn.	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	International Contracting & Marketing Corpn. USA.
40.	Pillaiperumalnallur COGT/Tail Nadu	Forgn.	300.00 (2x100) + 1x100) (Gas)	429.49	P. Vijayakumar Reddy, MAKOWSKI Associates, USA
41.	Khaperkheda TPS Units 5 & 6/ Maharashtra	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1632.00	Aranco Line Shipping Co. (Malta/Singapore) R R Associates
Total			19914.50	51986.29	

[Translation]

Power Requirement in U.P.

7472. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative figures of electricity requirement and generation in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the estimated gap between the require-

ment and generation during 1993-94; and

(c) the measures adopted by the Government to meet the requirement in full?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The details of actual power supply position that prevailed in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years i.e. 1990-91 1991-92 and 1992-93 and anticipated power supply position for the year 1993-94 are given below:-

	<i>Actual</i>		<i>(All figures in MU net) Anticipated</i>	
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Requirement	29940	31540	32415	34720
Availability	26758	28280	29118	30970
Shortage	3182	3260	3297	3750
% Shortage	10.6	10.3	10.2	10.8

(c) In order to mitigate the power shortage in Uttar Pradesh, it is envisaged to add 1607.5 MW capacity in the State Sector during the 8th Plan. In Addition, the State will also get its due share from the Central Sector projects which are being set up in the Northern Region. Various other measures being taken to increase the availability of power in Uttar Pradesh include maximising generation from existing generating stations, implementation of renovation and Modernisation Programme, Reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses, effective load management and enforce conservation measures and assistance from neighboring States and Systems.

Passenger Capacity of Indian Airlines and Air-Taxi Operators

7473. SHRI R. DHANUSKODIATHATHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft that are being operated by the Indian Airlines and Air-Taxi operators and their total passengers capacity; and

(b) the number of flights made by them each day and the percentage utilization of these airlines during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). At present, Indian Airlines has 49 operating aircraft with a total number of 8627 seats. On an average there are 209 departures every day. The average passenger fleet capacity utilization is 70.7%.

The number of aircraft being operated by Air Taxi operators at present is 25 with a total number of 1580 seats. Air Taxi operations are on non-scheduled/charter basis; the air taxi operators are not required to furnish statistics of their

capacity utilization.

[Translation]

Strike by M.T.N.L. Employees

7474. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
DR. RAMKRISHAN
KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephones services and the commercial activities of Delhi and Bombay have been affected due to strike by the employees of Mahanagr Telephone Nigam Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). As a result of Pen down/Tool down strike organised in Delhi by National Telecom Staff Federation on 6.4.93 and again from 13.4.93 to 16-4-93 forenoon, the manual trunk and special services were largely affected. Whereas local exchanges continued to function almost normally, fault repair service in certain exchanges such as Jorbagh, Kidwai Bhavan, Idgah, Delhi Gate, Janakpuri and Shaktinagar were adversely affected. Besides, customer services and telephone bill collection centres in some areas were affected.

STD/ISD services remained normal except from 23.30 hours of 12.4.93 to 1300 hours of 13.4.93 and again, from 9.30 hours of 14.4.93 to 03.55 hours of 15.4.93 when optical fibre cable on New Delhi-Bombay route was interrupted near Ajmer and Udaipur affecting STD calls to Ahmedabad and some other stations in Gujarat in addition to Madras, Bombay, Bangalore etc. for some hours. This disruption however had nothing to do with the strike.

There was no effect on the services in Bombay as there the strike did not materialise.

(c) All possible precautionary measures were taken to minimise the effect of the strike on the services. Negotiations were held with the representative of the federation. The strike was called off w.e.f 16.4.93 afternoon.

[English]

Forced Landings

7475. SHRI DAUYSINGRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

• (a) the reasons for the forced landings of airports; and

(b) the details thereof during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b). There has been no forced landing of aircraft at any airport during the last one year.

French Film Festival

7476. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sent by Doordarshan on participating in French Film festival; during each of the last three years;

(b) the object of participating in the festival; and

(c) the achievement made by participating in French Film Festival during last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Doordarshan did not participate in any of the Film Festivals held in France during the last

three years.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

World Bank Aided Tubewells

7477. SHRIDATTAMEGHE:
SHRIKHELAN RAMJANGDE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be please to state:

(a) the State-wise number of tube wells installed with the wells of World Bank during the last two years;

(b) the State-wise details of the World Bank assistance received for the purpose during each of the last two years;

(c) the number of tube wells, out of them laying out of order; and

(d) the number of tubewells repaired, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) During 1991-92 and 1992-93, the World Bank aided tube projects were implemented in Bihar and West Bengal, where 2274 and 4304 tube/dug wells were energised. Out of these, in Bihar, 140 new tubewells, 264 tubewells under modernisation programme and 1870 tubewells under rehabilitation programme were energised. In West Bengal 1756 tubewells and 2548 dugwells were energised with World Bank assistance.

(b) State-wise details of World Bank assistance received for installation of tubewells during the last two financial years are as under:-

(figures in US \$ Million)

State	Name of the Project	World Bank assistance received during	
		1991-92	1992-93
Uttar Pradesh	U.P. Public Tubewells-II Project	2.100*	-
West Bengal	West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project	15.500	1,669
Bihar	Bihar Public Tubewells Project.	1.000	4.344

* Credit closing date was 31.3.91. Claims filed were reimbursed by World Bank after 31.3.91.

(c) and (d). Information is being collected and will be laid Table of the House.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance For water Resources in Bihar

7478. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent for the development of water resources in Bihar out of the assistance received from the World Bank; and

(b) the amount proposed to be provided in future for the development programmes of water

resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) So far, an amount, of about US \$ 161 million under World Bank assisted projects has been spent for the development of water resources in Bihar, through various irrigation projects.

(b) For on-going Bank assisted irrigation projects in Bihar, an amount of about US \$ 24 million will be available in future for the development programmes of water resources. Further World Bank assistance would depend upon various parameters of the projects posed for external assistance like scope, size, feasibility etc.

Privatisation of ITDC

7479. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise India Tourism Development Corporation in stages;

(b) whether it is proposed to invite tenders for this purpose at international level; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) to (c). The Government have formulated a scheme whereby small groups of ITDC hotels would be formed for the purpose of developing them as joint ventures with leading foreign hotel chains. Under this scheme ITDC has invited bids for participation in the equity of the joint venture companies from the foreign international hotel chains.

Additional Area Brought Under Irrigation

7480. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRINITHISH KUMAR:

SHRI

PARASRAM

BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the additional area brought under irrigation during the Seventh Plan period, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) whether the full irrigation capacity was not utilised in the country for want of proper distribution at the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the gap between the irrigation capacity and utilisation by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the extent of decrease or increase likely to be recorded in this gap as against the figures of the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) A statement showing State-wise and Scheme-wise additional created-irrigation potential through Major & Medium and Surface and Ground Water schemes during the Seventh Plan (1985-90) is enclosed.

(b) Lack of proper distribution network upto the farm level is one of the reasons for not utilising full irrigation capacity at the end of Seventh Plan.

(c) and (d) At the end of Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) the gap between irrigation potential created and utilised through Major & Medium and Minor Schemes was estimated at 7.9 million hectares. This gap is likely to increase to 10.2 million hectares at the end of Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97).

STATEMENT

Additional Irrigation Potentia Created Through Major & Medium and Surface and Ground Water Minor Schemes during the Seventh Plan (1985-90)

(In Thousand hectares)

S.No.	State/UTs	Major & Medium	Minor		Total	
			Surface Water	Ground Water	Sub Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	89	141.00	315.00	456.00	545.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	15.78	-	15.78	15.78
3	Assam	46	70.89	75.15	146.04	192.04
4	Bihar	187	178.00	838.00	1016.00	1203.00
5	Goa	12	1.91	0.94	2.85	14.85
6	Gujarat	144	30.95	145.37	176.32	320.32
7	Haryana	98	-	100.97	100.97	198.97
8	Himachal Pradesh	2	7.80	1.80	9.60	11.60
9	Jammu & Kashmir	5	18.30	0.97	19.27	24.27
10	Karnataka	143	37.44	170.00	207.44	350.44

(In Thousand hectares)

S.No.	State/ Ts	Major & Medium	Minor		Total	
			Surface Water	Ground Water	Sub Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	Kerala	27	49.90	39.48	89.38	116.38
12	Madhya Pradesh	223	128.70	260.70	389.40	612.40
13	Maharashtra	264	105.00	292.10	397.10	661.10
14	Manipur	19	7.75	0.12	7.87	26.87
15	Meghalaya	-	5.35	0.08	5.43	5.43
16	Mizoram	-	3.05	-	3.05	3.05
17	Negaland	-	11.05	0.68	11.73	11.73
18	Orissa	120	33.27	62.90	96.17	216.17
19	Punjab	92	8.85	69.89	78.74	170.74
20	Rajasthan	201	37.00	239.14	276.14	477.14
21	Sikkim	-	6.36	-	6.36	6.36
22	Tamil Nadu	40	31.67	756.72	108.39	148.39

(In Thousand hectares)

S.No.	State/UTs	Major & Medium	Minor.		Total	
			Surface Water	Ground Water		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	Tripura	2	17.83	4.71	22.54	24.54
24	Uttar Pradesh	444	140.00	4371.00	4511.00	4955.00
25	West Bengal	59	194.75	727.85	922.60	981.60
Total States		2217	1282.60	7793.57	9076.17	11293.17
Total UTs		8	6.17	2.96	9.13	17.13
Grand Total		2225	1288.77	7796.53	9085.30	11310.30

[English]

Cancellation of IA Schedules

7481. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Airlines schedules cancelled from January 1992 to December 1992 and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the losses incurred as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines announced changes in its schedules on five occasions: due to seasonal variation, traffic demand and operational constraints during the period January 1992 to December 1992. Besides the above changes, contingency schedules were introduced twice (i) on 16.2.92 due to strike by Air Corporation Employees' Association; (ii) from 10.12.92 to 31.12.92, due to strike by Indian Commercial Pilots Association. There were no perceptible loss due to normal changes in the schedule. The cash loss suffered by Indian Airlines due to contingency schedules was Rs. 25.57 crores.

Clearance of Bargi Diversion and Siddhi River Stage-II

7482: SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared Bargi diversion and Siddhi River Stage-II;

(b) if so, the total amount allocated for these projects;

(c) the district-wise irrigation facilities likely to be provided from these projects to Madhya Pradesh including Durg;

(d) whether the projects have since been

cleared by the Planning Commission and Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(e) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(f) the time by which these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) After techno-economic examination, Bargi Diversion and Sindh River Phase-II Projects were found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in its meeting held in 12/92 fours. 1101.23 crores and Rs. 510.94 crores respectively subject to the clearance from the Ministry of Environment & Forests from environmental and/or forests angles and congruence of the State Finance Department to be furnished by the State Government.

(b) VIII Plan outlay for Bargi Diversion and Sindh River Phase-II Projects is Rs. 42 crores and Rs. 50 crores respectively.

(c) Bargi Diversion Project envisages annual irrigation of 131735 hectares (ha.), 239482 ha. and 5297 ha. in Jabalpur, Satna and Rewa districts respectively.

Sindh River Phase-II Project envisages annual irrigation of 35283 ha. in Shivpuri, 82781 ha. in Gwalior, 8341 ha. in Datia and 35555 ha. in Behind district.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) The State Government is required to furnish the requisite information to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and to obtain clearance from them.

Drinking Water in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh

7483. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will

the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the number of Indian enclaves in Bangladesh;

(b) whether drinking water supply to these enclaves is being made by any of the State Governments; and

(c) if so, the facts in details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) There are 119 exchangeable and 11 non-exchangeable Indian enclaves in Bangladesh. As all these enclaves are under the administrative control of Bangladesh Government supply of drinking water to them is the responsibility of Bangladesh Government.

Indo-Nepal Relations

7484: SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to strengthen further the ties with Nepal, including economic, cultural ties, since January, 1993; and

(b) the further steps contemplated being contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Since January 1993 several steps have been taken to strengthen the close economic and cultural ties between Indian and Nepal. Discussions with Nepal have covered a wide range of activities such as cooperation in the utilisation of water resources and assistance to Nepal for various projects, education and technical assistance have been contin-

ued. India and Nepal exchanged three letters on 16th February 1993 further liberalising the trade and transit regime between the two countries.

In the cultural area, the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the B.P. Koirala India-Nepal Foundation was held in January 1993 to approve various proposals to strengthen cultural and scholarly ties between India and Nepal.

[Translation]

Power Plants in Punjab

7485: SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZPUR): Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for setting up of new power project and enhancing the capacity of the existing power plants in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the power projects likely to be commissioned during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Power generating projects under consideration in the state of Punjab include Dhuri Thermal Power Station (1000 MW) Goindwal Sahib Thermal Power Project (500 MW); Shahpurkandi Hydro Electric Project (168 MW) and a hydel project on the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal (50 MW). The projects under consideration for renovation and modernisation include UBDC Stages I & III (Hydro 75 MW), Bhatinda TPS Stage-I II Units 5 and 6 (420 MW), Bhakra Right Bank (5x120 MW), Dehar (6x165 MW), Ganguwal HEP Units 2 and 3 (2x24.2 MW) and Kotla HEP. Units 2 & 3 (2x24.2 MW).

(c) No power generation project in Punjab is likely to be commissioned in 1993-94.

SC/ST Telephone Operators in MTNL

the reserved quota; and

7486. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to fill up the remaining posts

(a) the number of SC/ST telephone operators and supervisors in the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, Bombay, out of the total employees working there;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Now the designations of Telephone Operators and Telephone Supervisors are not existing in DOT. The existing designations are Telecom. Operating Assistants (Phones) TOA (Phones) Grade-I Grade-II, Grade-III and Grade-IV. Their numbers are as follows:-

(b) whether their number are according to

TOA (Phones)	Total	SC	ST
Grade-I	4178	294	45
Grade-II	1612	104	43
Grade-III	842	141	17
Grade-IV	65	09	01

(b) Cadrewise information is given as below:

TOA (Phones)	SC	ST
Gr. I	Yes	No
Gr. II	No	No
Gr. III	Yes	No
Gr. IV	No	No

(c) TOA (Phones) Gr. I

The Cadre is already having surplus officials due to introduction of automatisisation. Hence on recruitment is made in this cadre.

TOA (Phones) Gr. II

100% promotion from Gr. I, Eligible candidates are not available even by relaxing standards of eligibility upto the limit permissible.

TOA (Phones) Gr. III.

100% promotion from TOA (Phone) Grade II. Eligible ST candidates are not available for promotion even by relaxing standards of eligibility upto the limit permissible.

TOA (Phones) Gr. IV

Case for promotion to this grade is under process.

Indo-Asean Sectoral Dialogue

7487. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:
DR. R. MALLU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inaugural meeting of the Indo-Asean sectoral dialogue was held in New Delhi, recently;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed and the decisions arrived at the meeting;

(c) whether any areas have been identified for mutual cooperation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir. The inaugural meeting of the Indo-Asean Sectoral Dialogue was held on March 16-17, 1993.

(b) The modalities, institutional arrangements and the broad areas for future interaction were agreed upon during this meeting.

(c) Initially, the Indo-Asean Sectoral Dialogue would focus on such areas as trade, investment and tourism.

(d) Subsequent meetings of the Indo-ASEAN Sectoral Dialogue will focus in greater detail on the specific programmes that may be jointly pursued within the broad areas of trade, investment and tourism.

At the inaugural meeting, it was agreed that the following measures could be usefully pursued:

Trade-

1. holding regular trade talks between India and ASEAN.

2. Establishing a mechanism for the exchange of trade and commercial data.

Tourism-

1. Management of destination tourism.
2. Cooperation between the travel trade on the two sides.
3. Cooperation in the Hotel industry.
4. Promoting a visit India ASEAN Year.
5. Establishing an ASEAN-India Tourist Information Centre.

Investment-

Both sides agreed to identify "shopping lists" of investment proposals whereby ASEAN investments could be attracted to India and vice-versa.

ASEAN is also likely to establish an Investment Information Office in New Delhi.

Apart from closer cooperation in the fields of trade, investment and tourism, measures to promote interaction between India and ASEAN at the level of scholars and researchers were also agreed upon.

[English]

Indian Students in Ukraine

7488. DR. S.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the bleak future of the Indian students studying on scholarship in Ukraine; and

(b) if so, the steps taken and proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Government are aware of the difficulties currently facing Indian students studying in Ukraine.

(b) The Government of Ukraine has been addressed at high political level with the request that Indian students, studying in Ukraine prior to its independence, be enabled to complete their studies on the terms and conditions under which they had originally been admitted. A formal response from the Government of Ukraine is awaited.

Cancellation of Boeing flights by IA.

7489. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has cancelled fifty percent Boeing flights in early January, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b) From 10th December, 92 to 24th January, 93, Indian Airlines was operating a contingency schedule with capacity curtailed by approximately 75% due to pilots' strike; the curtailment of Boeing 737 flights during that period work out to be out 80%.

Capacity of Telephone Exchanges in Jalpaiguri, W. B.

7490. SHRI JITENDRANATH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in the Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal;

(b) the capacity of each of these exchanges;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase their capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) Twenty Eight;

(b) The information is given in the attached Statement I.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The following exchanges have been planned for conversion and expansion during 93/94 subject to availability of equipment.

1. Birpara.

2. Hasimara.

3. Jaigaon.

4. Jateswar

5. Kamakshyaguri.

6. Kumargramduar.

7. Bhotpasti.

8. Brajpur.

9. Dhupguri.

10. Krantirhat.

11. Mal.

12. Nagrakata.

It is proposed to expand Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri during 94/95.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of Exchange	Equipped Capacity
1	2	3
1	Alipurduar	700 L
2	Barobisa	88 L
3	Birpara	360 L
4	Falakata	160 L
5	Hasimara	200 L
6	Jaigaon	135 L
7	Jateswar	135 L
8	Kalchini	160 L
9	Kamakshyaguri	25 L
10	Kumargramduar	25 L
11	Madarihat	88 L
12	Banarhat	384 L
13	Belacoba	88 L

S.No.	Name of Exchange	Equipped Capacity
1	2	3
14	Bhotpasti	25 L
15	Brajaapur	25 L
16	Chalsa	88 L
17	Dhupguri	90 L
18	Gairkata	88 L
19	Jalpaiguri	1600 L
20	Krantirhat	45 L
21	Lataguri	56 L
22	Mal	360 LL
23	Mettelli	88 L
24	Moynaguri	160 L
25	Negrakata	100 LL
26	Dodlabari	88 L
27	Pundibari	88 L
28	Raiganj	56 L

EEC Aid for Rehabilitation of Oustees in Orissa

7491. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for rehabilitation of Oustees of the twenty five minor irrigation projects for assistance from the European Economic Community;

(b) the details of the proposals; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) The Government of Orissa has submitted two project proposals for obtaining external assistance from European Economic Community. These are (i) modernisation of tank irrigation system in Orissa. (ii) Minor Irrigation of Projects in Orissa. Under the first project modernisation of 91 minor irrigation tanks in 13 districts with an estimated cost of Rs. 17.46 crores for a period of 2 years is envisaged. The project is mostly located in drought-prone areas where inhabitants are tribal and economically backward. It has already been posed to DEA for external assistance. Second project deals with construction of 13 minor irrigation works and rehabilitation of 24 schemes in the I & II phase respectively with a total cost of Rs. 38.91 crores, out of which, EEC will contribute Rs. 32.80 crores. Presently, the project is under consultation stage with the State Government.

1989 Charter Scheme.

7492. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have operationalised the 1989 charter policy; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the further steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The 1989 Charter Policy is under review.

Processing of Hyderabad Grapes.

7493. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from Andhra Pradesh for the setting up of industries for processing of Hyderabad grapes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether there is any proposal to establish grape research institute at Hyderabad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). While the Ministry do not have any proposal for setting up of a Grape Research Institute, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has a proposal to set up a National Research Centre for grapes in one of the potential grape growing States during the Eighth Plan period.

Telecast of Award Winning Films

7494. SHRI C.P. MUDAIA GIRIJAPPA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: (a) whether the Government propose to telecast the award winning films on the National Network in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Doordarshan is already telecasting award winning films. They are generally scheduled in the late night slot on every first Wednesdays of the month and in the Afternoon slot on Sundays.

Excessive Billing of Desu

7495. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received about the excessive billing during the last six months and how many of them are still pending for action;

(b) the steps taken to check the wrong bills henceforth;

(c) whether consumers are being cheated by DESU with the advent of sending 'average' bills;

(d) the number of complaints pending with DESU about the non-refund of meter security amount;

(e) since when these are pending and the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to settle them expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA

NAIDU): (a) to (f) DESU had received about 23922 complaints regarding excessive billing during the last six months out of which 2008 complaints are pending settlement. The steps taken by DESU to minimise the billing complaints include intensification of checking of Meter Reading Edits, checking of bills at Districts before despatch to consumers, identification & checking of probable inflated bills before issue and setting up of a preaudit team at the computerised billing centre. Since the payments made in respect of the bills on average basis are adjusted in the subsequent bills based on actual consumption, there is no question of cheating of the consumers. About 252 complaints regarding refund of security deposits are pending with DESU since different periods and instructions have been issued by DESU for their disposal expeditiously.

[Translation]

Functioning of Telephone in Delhi

7496. SHRI JANGBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time limit is prescribed to make operative the telephone connections installed by the MTNL, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of telephone installed in March, 1993 and have not been made operational so far particularly under Idgah, Shakti Nagar and Lakshminagar exchanges in Delhi; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKU RAM): (a) Sir, normally a telephone is made operative by the following day after completion of installation work. In case of bulk release, however, the telephone installation work is completed in advance and the telephone is made

operative when the exchange gets commissioned/cable network becomes available.

(b) All the telephones installed in Delhi during March, 1993 have been made operational.

(c) Does not arise in view of answer at (b) above.

[English]

Development of Civil Airport at Mamnoor, A.P.

7497. SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop a civil airport at Mamnoor, Warangal (A.P.) provide air transport facilities to the town;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b) The National Airports Authority has, at present, no plan to develop this airport.

(c) The traffic potential does not warrant

upgradation of the airport.

Committee for Air/Doordarshan Staff

7498. SHRIDEVARAYA NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently constituted a high powered committee to review the working, institutional structure, training facilities and financial powers of all the services and cadres under its control;

(b) if so, the composition of the committee;

(c) by when the committee is likely to submit its report; and

(d) to what extent the grievances of the AIR/Doordarshan Staff are likely to be redressed thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) A High Level Committee has been set up.

(b) The composition of the Committee is as follows:-

1.	Shri U. C. Agarwal (Retd. Secy., Deptt. of Personnel)	Chairman
2.	Lt. Gen. K. Balram (Retd. Adjutant General)	Member
3.	Smt. V.S. Rama Devi (Retd. Secy., Leg. Deptt.)	Member
4.	Dr. N. Bhaskara Rao (Media Expert)	Member
5.	Shri Girish Kamad (Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademy)	Member

6.	Shri S.C. Mahalik Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Min. of I&B.	Member
7.	Shri K.A. Varadan, Additional Secretary Min. of I&B	Member
8.	Shri S.K. Malhotra	Member Secretary

**Additional Director General,
Doordarshan**

[Translation]

Delhi Telephones

(c) and (d) The term of the Committee is six months. However, the Committee may submit an interim report as early as possible.

**Marketing of Branded Fruit Juice in
US**

7499. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared any proposal from Pepsi Food for going an alliance with an US firm to market branded fruit juices in the US, Netherlands and U.K.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits to be accrued to the Country including the repatriation of foreign exchange earned in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) No such proposal has been cleared by Government. However, it has been reported that M/s. Pepsi Foods Limited will be exporting Season's Harvest branded fruit drink in five flavours in 250ml. non-returnable bottles to pepico World Trade Company Inc., New York. Full export proceeds at full invoice value will be realized.

7500. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question no. 4630 on December 21, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the information has been collected and furnished in fulfillment of the Assurance on 26-2-93.

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) & (b) above.

[English]

Production of Hops.

7501. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the scheme relating to production and processing as Hops; and

(b) the amount of financial assistance sanctioned for this purpose during the Eighth Five Year plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a plan scheme during the 8th plan period for development and processing of Hops under which assistance is provided as grant-in aid for meeting the capital expenditure on setting up of Hops processing plant to public sector/joint sector/cooperative sector undertakings. Assistance is also available as a grant to farmers upto 50% on the cost of procurement of materials like pipes, supporting structure etc. Which are considered essential for growing Hops. under the scheme, assistance is also available for the purpose of popularising Hops cultivation practices, training etc.

(b) During the financial year 1992-93, grant-in-aid of Rs. 40 lakhs has been provided to Lahaul Hops and Chikori Growers Cooperative Marketing-cum-Processing Society, Lahaulspiti, Himachal Pradesh for Hops processing project. A sum of Rs. 1.50 crore has been allocated under the scheme for the 8th Five Year Plan.

Himachal Pradesh,

General Post Offices in Gujarat.

7502. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of district headquarters in Gujarat where general post offices have not been opened so far,

(b) the steps taken by the Government in

this regard; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) , to (c) As per the existing rules, a first class Head Post Office under the charge of a Gazetted Postmaster at the Headquarters of the Circle is designated as General Post Office. In Gujarat, a General post Office already exists at Ahmedabad, the headquarters of Gujarat Postal Circle. Hence, there is no scope of having additional General Post Offices in other District Headquarters in Gujarat.

Optical Fiber facility in Assam.

7503. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start optical fiber facility for telephone lines in Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir. A high capacity optical fibre link for carrying trunk traffic has been planned to connect Guwahati with Patna.

(b) The following stations in Assam are proposed to be connected by the above optical fibre link:

1. Guwahati
2. Rangia
3. Nalbari
4. Pathsala
5. Borpeta Road
6. Borpeta Town
7. Bongaigaon

8. Bilasipara

9. Dhubri

10. Gauripur

**Public Telephones to Handicapped/
Ex-Servicemen.**

7505. SHRI DHARMA BHIKSHAM: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public telephones sanctioned to physically handicapped, war widows and ex-servicemen in the country during 1992;

(b) the number out of them in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;

(c) the number of applications pending; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRI OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) Payphones are allotted liberally to all those who volunteer for same including physically handicapped, war widows and ex-service-men. As such category-wise statistics are not maintained. Allotment and installation of public telephone is a continuous process depending on the exchange capacity and time taken by applicants for fulfilling departmental formalities.

T.V. Transmitter at Calicut

7505. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the high power T.V. transmitter proposed to be set up at Calicut is progressing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the districts of Cannanore, Wynad, Kasargod, Malappuram and Palghat are likely to be covered by Malayalam programme telecast by Trivandrum Doordarshan Kendra after the completion of the transmitter at Calicut; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A High Power TV Transmitter at Calicut is under implementation. Transmitter equipment has already been installed at the existing LPT centre there and an interim set up with 1 KW power has already been made technically ready, pending completion of the building and the tower for the permanent set up.

(c) and (d) On commissioning of HPT, Calicut on full power (10KW), parts of Cannanore, Wynad, Mallapuram and Palghat districts are expected to receive Malayalam programmes telecast by DDK, Trivandrum. Kasargod district, however, is not likely to be covered by Calicut due to large intervening distance and local terrain conditions.

Tourist to Somnath

7506. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourists who visited Somnath temple during 1991 and 1992; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The relevant statistics are not available as there is no system by which the tourists visiting various temples, monuments etc., can be compiled accurately.

Telephones to Gram Panchayats

7507. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of gram panchayats in the country which are connected by telephones as on March 31, 1993, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of the total number of gram panchayats, State-wise;

(c) the target date for the connections of all gram panchayats with telephones;

(d) whether it is proposed to install at least one PCO in each village of the panchayats which have been telephonically connected; and

(e) whether it is proposed to have a telephone connection for the local Panchayat Bhawan, thana, tehsil and block office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) As on 31.3.1993 the total number of Panchayat Villages covered with telephone facility is 98,244. The details along with percentage coverage telecom circle-wise are given in the attached Statement.

(c) Progressively by 31st March, 1995, subject to availability of resources.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

STATEMENT

Providing Telephone facility to Panchayat Villages-Status as on 01.04.1993

S.No.	Circle	Total No. of Panchayat Villages	No. of Panchayat Villages with telephone facility as on 31.3.1993	Percentage coverage Panchayat Villages
1	2	3	4	5
1	A.P.	19533	12,095	61.9
2	Assam	2485	1,220	49.1
3	Bihar	11762	5,570	47.3
4	Gujarat	13147	5,708	43.4
5	Haryana	5792	3,561	61.4
6	H.P.	2597	1,129	43.4
7	J&K	1461	598	40.9
8	Karnataka	8335	5,648	67.7
9	Kerala	982	982	100.0
10	M.P.	23523	11,960	50.8
11	Maharashtra including Goa	24937	9,612	38.5

S.No.	Circle	Total No. of Panchayat Villages	No. of Panchayat Villages with telephone facility as on 31.3.1993	Percentage coverage Panchayat Villages
1	2	3	4	5
12	North East including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram Nagaland & Tripura	4084	895	24.3
13	Orissa	4411	3,761	85.3
14	Gujarat	11030	4,056	36.7
15	Rajasthan	7562	5,546	73.3
16	Tamil Nadu	13228	9,999	75.2
17	Uttar Pradesh	73741	13,465	18.2
18	West Bengal including Sikkim	3486	2,140	61.3
Total		2,32,156	98,053	42.2

Development of Tourism in Goa

7508. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the details of centrally sponsored projects for development of tourism taken up for execution

during the current year in Goa, Project-wise?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): The following projects/schemes for the development of tourism in Goa have been listed for extending central financial assistance during the current year:-

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1. Restaurant at Old Goa	20.00
2. Wayside facilities at Dodamarg	10.00
3. Wayside facilities at Polem	10.00
4. Tourist Complex at Mangueshi	15.00
5. Tourist Complex at Kavalam	15.00
6. Purchase of boats	50.00
7. Tourist Complex at Old Goa	34.00
8. Fairs & Festivals and Publicity Support	10.00

Export Earnings from Food Processing Sector

7509. DR. R MALLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the value of export earnings made in food processing sector during each of the last two years; and

(b) the estimated exports during projection 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The Export Earnings, in respect of processed foods including Marine products, rice etc. were of the order of Rs. 2805 crores in 1991-92 and in 1992-

93 it is estimated to Rs. 3400 crores. These exports are likely to touch the figures of Rs. 4000 crores and in 1993-94 and about Rs. 4700 crores in 1994-95.

Engagement of Professional Lobbyists in Foreign Countries

7510. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have engaged professional lobbyists in foreign countries especially in the US for educating public about the support of Pakistan to terrorism and subversion

in Jammu and Kashmir and to counter the disinformation campaign launched by that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard through Indian missions in these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAŃ KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) After careful consideration, Government have decided that, given their limited role in West Europe, there is no need for the present to consider engaging the services of lobbyists in that region. However, the issue of engaging professional lobbyists in the USA to educate public opinion is under active consideration.

(c) Extensive documentation on Pakistan's support to terrorism in India has been disseminated by our Missions abroad. Frequent briefings of Legislators, the media and mobilisation of influential opinion makers are also undertaken to counter the disinformation campaign by Pakistan.

[Translation]

Amreli Airport

7511. SHRI DILLEEPBHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: (a) whether the construction work to improve the air strip at Amreli airport in Gujarat has been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether additional facilities are being provided for safe landing of aircraft at the airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) to (c). The airstrip at Amreli belongs to the Government of Gujarat. National Airports Au-

thority has no plans to upgrade the facilities at this airstrip.

[English]

Promotion of Food Processing Industries in A.P.

7512. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any special schemes to promote and develop the Food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the main features of the same; and

(c) the details of the investment proposed to be made for various projects along with incentives offered for small Scale Industries in this sector during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated several plan schemes for the development of Food Processing Industries in the country, the list of which is given by the attached statement. Since liberalisation of Industrial Policy in July, 1991, 2042 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda have been filed till March, 1993 for setting up of Food Processing Industries in different States. 118 IEMS have been filed in respect of Andhra Pradesh involving investment of Rs. 2312 crores approximately.

The Ministry has provided financial assistance of Rs. 2.28 crores to Andhra Pradesh for setting up of food processing units in Andhra Pradesh during the last 2 years. While several incentives are provided for setting up of food processing industries such as automatic approval for foreign collaboration upto 51%, reduction/removal of union excise/customs duty, etc.,

the Industrial Policy separately seeks to provide incentives to the Small Scale Sector by exclusively reserving some items for manufacture in the Small Scale Sector and by requiring other units to obtain a licence in case they intent to set up projects for the manufacture of these prod-

ucts. In addition in the Union Budget fr 1993-94, exemption limit for Union excise duty has been raised to Rs. 30 lakhs of turn over for all units, which is expected to benefit a large number of units in the lowest level of the Small Scale Sector.

STATEMENT

Summary of Pillar Schemes

GRAIN PROCESSING SECTOR,

- 1 Post Harvest Technology Centre, IIT, Kharagpur
- 2 Paddy Processing Research Centre, Thanjavur
- 3 Regional Extension Service Centres
- 4 Research and Development Schemes
- 5 Rice Milling Machinery and Allied Equipments Testing Centres
- 6 Modernisation of Rice Mills
- 7 Setting up of Food Engineering Centre

FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROCESSING

- 1 Scheme for setting up food processing and training centres in the rural areas
- 2 Scheme for assistance for establishment of F&VP units
- 3 Scheme for strengthening backward linkages between processors and growers, Testing Centres.
- 4 Scheme for assistance for development of infrastructure for mushroom cultivation and processing.
- 5 Assistance for development and processing of Hops.

6 Generic Advertising on processed foods and for providing marketing assistance.

7 R&D in F&VP

MEAT & POULTRY PROCESSING

1 Establishment of National Livestock Products Development Council.

2 Development of port processing.

3 Development of sheep goat and rabbit meat processing

4 Development of Poultry & egg processing

5 Development of Buffalo meat processing

6 Development of infrastructure for storage and transport of meat for export

7 Development of marketing facility

8 Development of trained manpower for meat processing industry

9 R & D for meat processing and specialised packaging

FISHERIES & FISH PROCESSING

1 Assistance for participation in deep sea fishing and processing

2 Grant-in-aid providing interest subsidy on loan for acquisition of deep sea fishing vessel.

3 Assistance for diversified fishing

- 4 Scheme for effective implementation of MZI Act by providing funds for installation of Communication facilities for the Coast Guard.
 - 5 Scheme for setting up of cold-chain
 - 6 Scheme for tuna and other fish processing
 - 7 Assistance to National Marine Fisheries Development Board.
 - 8 Fishery Survey of India
- CONSUMER INDUSTRY
- 1 R&D scheme on soyabean products and Indian traditional foods and packaging.
 - 2 Investment in Public Sector Enterprises.
 - a) MFIL
 - b) NERAMAC
- SECRETARIAT ECONOMIC SERVICES
- 1 Scheme for strengthening of nodal agencies
 - 2 Scheme for strengthening of Directorate of F&VP for information training, education and quality system for development of F&VP.
 - 3 Scheme for participation in National and international exhibitions.
 - 4 Scheme for promoting studies in food processing.
 - 5 Scheme for performance awards in Food Processing Industries

Visit of Prime Minister to Thailand

7513. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister visited Thailand recently;

(b) if so, the broad outcome of the talks held by him with the leaders of that country;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed during the visit; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

The Prime Minister visited Thailand from 7-10, April 1993. In Thailand, Prime Minister had an audience with His Majesty the King. PM had comprehensive discussions with Thai Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai and with Thai businessmen and intellectuals. PM also met the Indian community. It was decided to enhance Indo-Thai cooperation in the fisheries sector. Other sectors like agriculture and science and technology were identified as having enormous potential. It was decided to draw-up an action programme for cooperation in specific projects, which would be evaluated and expanded after one year. Both sides desired that the private sector play its expected role in enhancing trade and investment both ways. The Thai Prime Minister accepted PM's invitation to visit India.

(c) There was no formal agreement signed during this visit.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Airstrips in U.P. and Bihar

7514. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct airstrips in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise.

(c) the amount likely to be incurred on the construction of airstrips in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, separately;

(d) whether the land acquisition work has been completed in this regard; and

(e) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the speedy completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e). National Airports Authority has no plan at present to construct any new airstrip in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

[English]

Power Stations in U.P.

7515. MAJ. GEN (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the location of power stations in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the quantum of electricity generated by each of the power stations during 1992, separately;

(c) the extent of generating capacity utilised by these power stations during 1992; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for the optimal utilisation of installed capacity in the

State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The required information is given in the attached statement I and II.

(d) Various measures being taken for optimum utilisation of the installed capacity in

Uttar Pradesh include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to State Electricity Boards in undertaking Plant Betterment Programme, supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal, training of operation and Maintenance personnel and strengthening of Transmission & Distribution System. Generation from hydro stations depends upon the availability of water in the reservoir.

STATEMENT

Hydro Electric Projects in Operation in Uttar Pradesh (Station Capacity over 3 MW)

S.No.	Name of H.E Station	Location (Distt)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Design Energy (MU)	Generation During 1992 (Jan. 92 to Dec. 92)
1	2	3	4	5	6
STATE SECTOR (UPSEB)					
1	Rihand	Mirzapur	300	860	624
2	Obra	Mizapur	99	283	240
3	Dhaqkrani (Yamuna St I)	Dehradun	33.75)		
4	Dhallipur (Yamuna St. I)	Dehradun	51)	600	556
5	Kulhal (Yamuna St. IV)	Dehradun	30)		
6	Chibro (Yamuna St. II)	Dehradun	240	790	894
7	Khodri	Dehradun	120	352	421
8	Ramganga	Pauri Garhwal	198	336	317

S.No.	Name of H.E Station	Location (Distt)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Design Energy* (MU)	Generation During 1992 (Jan. 92 to Dec.92)
1	2	3	4	5	6
9	Chilla	-do-	144	725	657
10	Matatila	Lalitpur	30	124	82
11	Maneri Bhali	Uttar Kashi	900	567	356
12	Khatima	Nainital	41.40))		
13	Pathri	Saharanpur	20.40)		
14	Mohamadpur	Saharanpur	9.30)	590	166
15	Nirgajni	Muzaffar Nagar	5.00)		
16	Khara*	Saharanpur/Dehradun	72.00	377	1
Sub-Total (UPSEB)			1483.85	5604	4505
Central Sector (NHPC)					
1	Tanakpur**	Nainital	120	498	115
Total			1603.85	6102	4620

* Commissioned on 29.12.1992

** Commissioned in March/April, 1992

STATEMENT-II

Thermal Power Station	Location (Districts)	Electricity Generated	
		Gwh	PLF(%)
UPSEB			
Thermal			
Obra	Mirzapur	6683	52.5
Panki	Kanpur	440	208
Harduaganj A)	Aligarh	-	-
Harduaganj B&C)		741	21.4
Paricha	Jhanbisi	725	37.6
Anpara	Senebhadra	4077	73.9
Tanda	Faizabad	636	32.7
RPH Kanpur		-	-
Others		-	-
UPSEB TOTAL		13303	47.9
NTPC			

Thermal Power Station	Location (Distts)	Electricity Generated	
		Gwh	PLF(%)
Thermal			
Singrauli	Mirzapur/ Sonbhadra	13669	76.1
Rihand	Sonebhadra	60900	69.6
NCR	Ghaziabad	180	41.5
Unchahar	Raibarelli	1607	41.5
Auraiya GT	Dibiyapur	3281	-
Dadri GT	Ghaziabad	1194	-
NTPC Total		25940	-
Nuclear			
NAPS	Bulandshahr	1642	46.2
U.P. State			
Thermal		39324	59.2
Nuclear		40966	46.2
		40966	-

[Translation]

Post and Telegraph Offices in Villages

7516 SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) number of villages which fulfil the norms prescribed for opening of new Post and Telegraph Offices;

(b) the number of such villages in Madhya Pradesh particularly in the Bilaspur region where there is not sub post offices at present; and

(c) the number of post offices/sub post offices and telegraph offices opened during 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Post Office:

It is not possible to indicate generally the number of villages where a post office can be opened. It can be opened in the rural areas only if it fulfils the norms relating to (i) population (ii) distance from the nearest post office and (iii) income. These data undergo changes whenever higher allowance are paid to the staff or when the norms are changed. However, as on today around 18,500 villages in the country *prima facie* are eligible to have a post office on the basis of distance formula and population norm.

Telegraph Office:

The telegraph facility in a village through a post office is initially provided on phonocom basis as per demand and number of such villages in Madhya Pradesh is 'NIL'. Information in respect of the States other than Madhya Pradesh is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Post Office:

There are a total of 75903 villages in Madhya Pradesh and 3577 villages in Bilaspur District not having the facility of a sub post office.

(c) Post Office:

In Madhya Pradesh, during annual Plan 1991-92, 185 extra departmental branch post offices and during 1992-93, 106 extra departmental branch post offices and 7 DSOs were opened.

Telegraph Office:

Number of telegraph office opened during 1991-92 and 1992-93 is Nil. However, telegraph facility is provided through 8292 and 3668 Gram Panchayats at the location of Long Distance Public Telephones during 1991-92 and 1992-93 respectively.

Passports through Post Offices

7517. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:
SHRI RAM BADAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the missing of passports sent through post;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have detected any cases of obtaining passport by applicants on bogus address during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (c) Yes Sir.

(b) and (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

National Project Construction Corporation

7518. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Project Construction Corporation has become a sick unit;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the efforts made to make it profit earning undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) The National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC) is categorised as a sick unit according to the norms, laid down in the Sick Industrial Companies (special provision) Act, 1985. However, it not being a manufacturing unit is not covered under the provisions of the Act.

(b) Main reasons for this state of affairs are the losses incurred by it since 1989-90 due to disproportionately high expenditure on overheads, low order book position, heavy interest burden delay in mobilisation on works and rates quoted by NPCC on certain works being found to be uneconomical.

(c) This Ministry has formulated a comprehensive plan for the revival of the Company. The Company has side by side adopted various measures such as Voluntary Retirement Scheme for reducing its overheads, disposal of equipment which is beyond economical repairs and surplus stores for improving its cash flow situation, special efforts to achieve predetermined targets on various units, system of signing of Memorandum of Understanding with Sec-

tor-in-Charges.

Air Stations/Doordarshan Kendras in Bihar

7519. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to set up new AIR stations and Doordarshan kendras in Bihar during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) (a) and (b) In addition to the local radio station at Daltonganj, the following TV projects are envisaged to be commissioned in Bihar during 1993-94:-

(i) Permanent TV Studio centre at Patna

(ii) Programme Generation facility Centres at Daltonganj and Muzaffarpur

(iii) Low Power Transmitters at Aurangabad, Godda, Gumia, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Navada and Raxaul.

[English]

Bakreswar Thermal Power Project

7520. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any power consortium from Germany has come forward with technical and commercial package for the Bakreswar power project in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA) (a) and (b) A German firm M/s. kraftwerks

anlagenbau AG Berlin (KAB) in association with M/s. Hauslage & Co. has made a technical and commercial offer for the implementation of Bakreshwar thermal power project (3x210MW) envisaging erection and commissioning of three numbers of turbo-sets and other auxiliaries to match the boilers on order with M/s/ ABL. Since the Bakreshwar thermal power project is planned for execution in the State sector it is for the State authorities to take a view on the offer.

**Andhra Pradesh State Electricity
Board**

7521. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Finance Corporation

has sanctioned a scheme for improvement, strengthening of transmission lines by the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount sanctioned to each of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) the details of schemes sanctioned by power Finance Corporation for improvement and strengthening of transmission lines by the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board and the amount sanctioned against each of these schemes, as on date, are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Details of Transmission Schemes sanctioned under PFC Loan for improvement and strengthening of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board System.

Sl. No.	Details of the transmission scheme	Estimated Cost	Sanctioned Loan
1	Pillorcha-Ramagundam Scheme	5.16	5.16
2	Ramagundam-Nizamabad	19.07	9.53
3	Vishakhapatnam Scheme	7.95	3.97
4	Cuddapah-Renigunta Scheme	10.13	5.07
5	Langer Houz Scheme	4.74	2.37
6	VTPS-Vijayawada Scheme	5.89	2.95
7	Srisaillam-Ongole Scheme	4.45	2.23
8	Hiryailliguda Scheme	1.80	0.75
9	Kurnool-Somaya Julapally	23.04	11.52
10.	Ghanpur Scheme	1.83	0.92
11	6 nos 132/33 KV S/s	19.88	9.94
12	VTPS-Guntur Scheme	9.21	4.61
13	Aug of 7 nos. 132/33KV S/s	4.91	2.46

Sl. No.	Details of the transmission scheme	Estimated Cost	Sanctioned Loan
14	3 nos. New 132/33 KV s/s	8.54	4.27
15	Kalikiri Scheme	4.10	2.05
16	Augmentation of 3 nos 132/33 KV s/s	2.48	1.36
17	Pendurthy Scheme	5.53	304
18	Augmentation of 3 nos 220 KV s/s	5.74	3.16
19	R&M of EHV s/s	4.99	3.40
20	Aug. of 220 & 132 KV s/s (6 nos)	11.17	5.59
21	Aug. of 14 nos 132/33 KV s/s	10.51	5.25
22	Kalwakurthy-Mehboobnagar	20.34	10.17
23	Tadepallli-Ongole Scheme	1.73	1.21
24	2 NOS 132/33 kv S/S	6.85	4.10
25	6 nos 132/33 KV s/s	22.58	13.50
Total		222.62	118.58

Kamala River Under Western Kosi Canal

7522. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstrred Question No. 2665 on March 15, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar had written to the union Government to spend 20 crore rupees on the construction of siphon across Kamla river under Western Kose canal during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details of amount spent on this account; and

(c) the amount being spent during 1993-94 for the construction of siphon and in completing the incomplete branch canals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON)* : (a) No such request has been received at the Centre.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The working Group of the Planning Commission has recommended an outlay of Rs. 20 crores during 1993-94 for Western Kosi Project in the state Plan.

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in U.P. and Bihar

7523. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of old telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which require replacement and modernisation;

(b) the total number of electronic and cross bar exchanges set up since June 1991 separately in each State;

(c) the total number of villates covered by telephone facility at present;

(d) whether these telephones are functioning satisfactorily;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) 408 and 25 old telephone exchanges in U.P. and Bihar respectively require replacement and modernisation.

(b) 591 and 25 electronic telephone exchanges have been set up since June, 1991 till March, 1993 in U.P. and Bihar respectively. No cross bar exchanges have been set up in both these States during this period.

(c) 15040 villages in U.P. and 7276 villages in Bihar have been covered with telephone facility as on 31.3.93.

(d) yes Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

[English]

Electronic exchanges in Tamil Nadu.

7524 SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to set up electronic exchanges in Tamil Nadu during

1993-94; and

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SUKH RAM) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) if so, the district-wise details thereof?

(b) district-wise details are given in the
attached Statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

STATEMENT

Kamarajar District

Watrap

ILT 512

Aruppukottai

SBM 1000

Cholapuram

CDCT 128

Mamsapuram

-do-

Ammathur

-do-

Mettugundu

MILT 64

Narikkudi

-do-

M. Pudupatti

-do-

Sankaralingapuram

-do-

Uppathur

-do-

Dharmapuri District

Harur

IILT 512

Pappireddi

C-DOT Twin

Patti

Theerthamalai

MILT 64

Ramayasahalli

-do-

Veppampatti

-do-

Ramanathapuram District

Eggoor	-do-
Sanamavu	-do-
Rameshwaran	ILT 512
Kilakarai	SBM 1000
PeriyapattinaM	C-Dot, 128
Devipattinam	-do-
Kadaladi	-do-
Tiruvadanai	-do-
Uchipulli	-do-
Ekkakudi	MILT 64
Natham	ILLT 512
Nilakottai	-do-
Dindigul	C-Dot MAX-I
Ammainaickanur	C-Dot 128
Vemparpatti	-do-

Dindigul Anna District

Eriyodu	-do-
Guzhilamparai	Twin
Kesavapatti	-do-
Margampatti	C-Dot 128
Perumparai	-do-
Edayaikottai	MILT 64
K.C. Patty	-do-
Nellai	
Vikramasingapuram	SBM 400
Kadayam	SBM 1000
Valliyoor	-do-
Pazhavoor	MILT 64
Tiruvannamalai	C-Dot SBM 400
Kunnathur	MILT 64
Bramadesam	-do-

Kattambomman District

Sambuvarayar District

Nagapattinam Quai-De-Millath	Onnupuram	-do-
	Kilkodungalur	C-Dot 128
	Koradacherii	SBM 400
	Vedaranyam	-do-
	Nagapattinam	SBM 1400
	Mannargudi	-do-
	Tiruvarur	-do-
	Ammaiyappan	C-Dot 128
	Edakkaliyur	-do-
	Kariyapattinam	-do-
	Ammaiyappan	C-Dot 128
	Edaqqkaliyur	-do-
	Kariyapattinam	-do-
	Ullikkottai	-do-
	Vaqqapathimangalam	-do-

Nilgiris District	Karuvakurichi	MILT 64
	Selvapuram	-do-
	Tiruthangoor	-do-
	Vilakkudi	-do-
Pasumpon Devar Thirumangar District	Gudalur	SBM 1000
	Kothagiri	C-Dot SBM 1400
	Kotada	MILT 64
Padukottai District	Nathagudi	C-Dot 128
	Eriyur	-do-
	Kandara-manickkam	MILT 64
	Raganeri	-do-
	Arantangi	SBM 1000
	Pudukottai	SBM 1400
	Mimisal	C-Dot 123

Pondicherry District	Avanthankottai	MILT 64
	Karkaikailli	SBM 1400
Trichy District	Praiya	SBM 1000
	Amoor	C-Dot 128
	Inampudhur	-do-
	Inamkulathur	-do-
	Kasipalayam	-do-
	Mutharasa	-do-
	Nallu Pullivalam	-do-
	Vairamadaï	-do-
	Athiyur	MILT 64
	Edaqyakurichi	-do-
	Edayakurichi	-do-
	G. Udayarpalli	-do-

South Arcot District	Tirumalapadi	-do-
	Neelikuppam	ILLTT 512
	Neyvelli	SBM 1000
	Township	
	Panruti	-do-
	Tindivanam	SBM 1400
	Chidambaram	-do-
	Siddallinga	
	madam	C-Dot- 128
	Murukkeri	-do-
	Veppur	-do-
	Tiruthuraiyur	-do-
	Mellpattam bakkam	-do-
	Aaranthapuram	MILT 64
	Ariyalur	-do-
	Elavarasankottai	-do-

Kalamarudur -do-
 Nagalur -do-
 Ramanatham -do-
 Siruppakkam -do-

Kanyakumari District

Boothapandi SBM 400

Kulasekaram -do-

Muttom -do-

Kuzhithurai SBM 1000

Thuckalay -do-

Neyyoor ILT 512

Thanjavur District

Mayiladughurai SBM 1400

Vadakari SBM 400

Sirkali SBM 1000

Papaqnasam	-do-
Manganallur	C-Dot 128
Punnainallur	-do-
Ambalacherry	MILT 64
Okkanadia	MILT 64
Kuliyur	
Tiruchendur	ILT 512
Christia	SBM 1000
Nagaram	
Kayalpattinam	SBM 1400
Authoor	C-Dot Twin
Ettyapuram	-do-
Veppaledai	C-Dot 128
Vallanadu	-do-
Pudur	-do-

Chidambaram District

Naduvakurichi	-do-
Deivachelapuram	MILT 64
Mudivaithanendhal	MMILT 64
Perilamvampatti	-do-
Villiseri	-do-
Pasavanthurai	-do-
Ambur	SBM 1400
Arkonam	SBM 1000
Melvisharan	SBM 1000
Pernambut	-do-
Vaniyambadi	SBM 1400
Anaicut	c-dOT 128
Odakathur	-do-
Kajalnaickamm	-do-
Patti	

Vellore, Ambedkar District

Madanur	C-Dot twin
Koodapattu	C-Dot 128
Guruvarajapet	SBM 1000
K.R. Thengal	-do-
Kesavanpudhur	-do-
Odakkal	-do-
Saibaba Colony	1000 lines
	New Tech.
Madukkarai	RLU
Sulur	-do-
Pollachi-II	C-Dot Max-I
Alanthurai	IIL 512
Chettipalayam	-do-
Negamam	-do-
Thekkalur	-do-
Thondamuthur	-do-

Coimbatore District

Perumanallur	-do
Sirumugai	-do-
Karamadai	-do-
Mangalam	SBM 1000
Saravampatti Mudis	C-Dot 128
T. Nalligoundam	
Palayam	-do-
Manthiri	C-Dot 128
Palayam Pappanpatti	-do-
Pallipallayam	-do-
Alathur	Twin
Ambarapalayam	Twin
Cincona	MILT 64
Karacheri	-do-
Attapatti	-do-

Coimbatore District

Chettiyakka -do-

Paluyam Jakkarpalayam -do-

Jakkarpalayam -do-

Muthugoundanur -do-

S. Komarapalayam -do-

Kadamparai -do-

Tirupur e-10b

New Tech. 100000

Coimbatore

Erode District
(Periyar District)

Erode-III E-10B

Pallipalayam RLU

Arachallur ILT 512

Kanjikol -do-

Chittar -do-

D.G. Pudur -do-

Nadupalayam	-do-
Nathakadiyur	-do-
Thingalu	-do-
Anthiyur	-do-
Chinnamaqlai	SBM 1400
Kavindapadi	SBM 1400
Uthukuli	-do-
Nullroad	C-Dot-Twin
Paduppai	-do-
Varadanallur	-do-
Vattuthurai	MILT 6
Pettaikali	-do-
Palayam	
Madurai District	
Ellis Nagar	E-10B
Chellampatti	MILT 64

Salem District

Kaliyamangalam	-do-
Karungalkudi	-do-
Palamedu	-do-
Salem-II	E-10 B
Mettur Dam	C-Dot
(RS)	SBM 1400
Mullukurichi	C-Dot 128
Kullapaickkanur	-do-
Pannilutti	C-Dot 128
Palayam Pattanam Moria	-do-
ppan palayam	
Chittalandur	Twin C-Dot
Poddanaickkan	
Palayam	-do-

Rasinagar	-do-
Pullampatti	MILT 64
Mangalapuram	-do-
Senbagamadevi	-do-
Vellalakundram	-do-
Kancheepuram	C-Dot Max-I
Kalpakkam	SBM 400
Tiruvallur	SBM 1000
Perambakkam	C-Dot 128
Elavambedu	-do-
Mevalarkuppam	C-Dot 128
Equarpalayam	MILT 64
Edayarpakkam	-do-

Chengai Anna District

Madras

Meyyoor	-do-
Arambakkam	-do-
New Tech.	Axe-10 1000 Lines
Adyar	E 10 B
RLU's E-10B 9700 Lines.	

Air Vividh Bharati Stations

7525. SHRISOMJIBAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vividh Bharati Stations functioning in the country and the income earned by each station during the last three years;

(b) whether the AIR commercial services are still profitable in comparison to Doordarshan;

(c) whether AIR Programmes are heard in neighboring countries on external transmitters; and

(d) to the number of new commercial

stations proposed to be established in the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) A Statement is annexed.

(b) All India radio and Doordarshan are two different media and as such cannot be compared.

(c) The Commercial Service of All India Radio is a part of its Home Service and not meant for neighbouring countries. However, some spill over may be possible in Sri Lanka and Nepal.

(d) Ten, Sir.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Station	Gross	Revenue		Earnings
			1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	5
1	Ahmedabad	83,16,034	1,06,59,702	1,07,41,927	
2	Rajkot	27,93,548	36,88,146	37,64,909	
3	Vadodara	33,76,575	48,71,186	52,17,744	
4	Bangalore	83,77,451	1,16,06,287	1,14,71,458	
5	Dharwar	22,29,909	30,01,837	34,25,797	
6	Bhopal	37,87,307	52,47,235	62,88,275	
7	Indore	44,94,171	53,90,573	66,67,573	
8	Bombay	2,09,32,337	3,15,10,429	2,66,82,862	
9	Pune	46,64,985	55,79,060	59,16,422	
10	Nagpur	42,47,197	50,93,587	64,81,989	
11	Calcutta	1,41,43,898	2,24,69,749	2,06,83,230	
12	Chandigarh	32,09,977	41,79,102	46,24,459	

Sl. No.	Station	Gross	Revenue	Earnings
1	2	3	4	5
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (Provisional)
13	Jalandhar	39,86,054	46,01,513	38,58,917
14	Cuttack	36,36,015	49,58,531	59,88,791
15	Delhi	3,10,23,490	3,63,27,282	3,26,93,799
16	Hyderabad	1,26,47,041	1,49,47,296	1,40,32,965
17	Vijayawada	90,26,476	1,15,89,839	1,14,95,576
18	Jaipur	60,66,810	97,59,730	1,10,14,187
19	Jodhpur	28,20,428	30,09,781	33,88,761
20	Kanpur	86,63,715	1,25,86,470	1,18,33,503
21	Lucknow	61,25,829	1,02,89,897	99,67,698
22	Allahabad	50,39,713	57,40,791	53,65,949
23	Madras	2,53,26,347	3,00,43,706	3,41,22,224
24	Trichirapalli	1,27,36,157	1,71,73,572	1,89,03,207

Sl. No.	Station	Gross		Revenue		Earnings	
		1990-91	1991-92	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (Provisional)	1992-93 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25	Patna	51,98,206	93,48,295	1,03,00,530			
26	Ranchi	28,16,798	30,79,343	39,32,297			
27	Srinagar	9,74,556	10,52,547	15,31,799			
28	Thiruvananthapuram	32,20,372	34,41,449	41,00,129			
29	Calicut	21,30,251	22,89,945	28,11,112			
30	Panaji	21,30,251	1,51,309	10,42,968			

[Translation]

[English]

Automatic Telephone Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh

7526 SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2204 on December 7, 1992 and State;

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Assurance already fulfilled on dated 19th March 1993, and the information is available in the Lok Sabha Secretariat records.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Foreign Aids Irrigation projects of Orissa and M.P.

7527. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
KUMARI PUSHPADEVI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to give priority to some on going foreign aided irrigation projects in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh in the matter of funding during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the name of such irrigation projects;

(c) the amount proposed to be sanctioned for those irrigation projects; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In Orissa and Madhya Pradesh the Planning Commission are according priority in the matter of funding to the following externally aided irrigation projects:-

(Rupees in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme	Eighth Plan Outlay	Annual Plan (1993-94) Approved
Madhya Pradesh			
1.	National Water Management projects	76.00	10.00
2.	Dam safety Assurance & Rehabilitation Projects	80.00	10.00
Total		156.00	20.00

(Rupees in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme	Eighth Plan Outlay	Annual Plan (1993-94) Approved
<i>Orissa</i>			
1.	Upper Indravati Dam	50.00	20.00
2.	Upper Indravati Irrigation	256.00	20.00
3.	Upper Kolab Irrigation Project	76.00	20.00
4.	Central Planning Unit	12.00	11.50
5.	National Water Management Projects	34.00	7.00
6.	Dam Safety Assurance & Rehabilitation Projects	64.00	6.00
Total:		492.00	84.50

TV Tower at Bageshwar in Almora District

7528. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the allocations made for the construction of T.V relay transmitter at Bageshwar in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh in the Year 1993-94; and

(b) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The very low power TV transmitter at Bageshwar in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh is envisaged to be set up at a capital cost of about Rs. 77.65 lakhs. There is a provision of Rs. 75,000 only for this project in the Budget Estimates 1993-94 of Doordarshan.

(b) The very low power TV transmitter at Bageshwar is envisaged to be commissioned during 1994-95.

Speed Post Services from Bangalore

7529. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which speed post services are extended from Bangalore; and

(b) the countries proposed to be covered during 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) At present speed post Service is available with 61 countries from Bangalore as per list given in the attached Statement.

(b) it is proposed to introduce speed Post

Services with 12 more Countries subject to justification during 1993 as given thereunder:

1. Cape Verde

2. El Salvador

3. Kuwait

4. Yemen Arab Republic

5. Bermuda

6. Kenya

7. israel

8. Italy

9. Vietnam

10. Mauritius

11. Latvia

12. Iceland

STATEMENT

List of Countries for which international Speed Post Service is available from Bangalore

(A) Both Merchandise and Documents		(B) Documents only	
1	United Kingdom	1	Belgium
2	United States of America	2	Iraq
3	Bangladesh	3	Sweden
4	Greece	4	Tunisia
5	Macau	5	Luxembourg
6	Switzerland	6	Rwanda
7	Turkey	7	Argentina
8	Thailand	8	Nigeria
9	Federal Republic of Germany	9	Indonesia
10	Hong Kong	10	Saudi Arabia
11	Bahrain	11	Sri Lanka
12	Egypt	12	Maldives
13	Netherlands	13	Guyana

(A) Both Merchandise and Documents		(B) Documents only	
14	Pakistan	14	Denmark
15	Senegal	15	Iran
16	United Arab Emirates	16	Mexico
17	Australia	17	Niger
18	Austria	18	Panama
19	U.S.S.R	19	Papua New Guinea
20	Singapore	20	Zaire
21	Oman		
22	Republic of Korea		
23	Portugal		
24	Norway		
25	Japan		
26	France		
27	Spain		
28	Ireland		
29	Datar		

(A) Both Merchandise and Documents	(B) Documents only
30	People's Republic of China
31	Canada
32	Cyprus
33	Ethiopia
34	Malawi
35	New Zealand
36	Sudan
37	Ghana
38	Hungary
39	Malaysia
40	Morocco
41	Uganda

Tapping of Telephones.**7530. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 198 on August 9, 1988 and state:

(a) the outcome of the findings on the matter of tapping of telephones of members of Parliament and Chief Ministers etc.

(b) if not, the reasons therefore, and

(c) the time by which the pending enquiry is likely to be completed and report laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM RAM): (a) The question of tapping of telephones was examined by the Government in consultation with the Attorney General of India. The existing provisions in Section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act takes adequate care of Prohibiting tapping of telephones except in strictly permitted area mentioned therein. Hence, no amendment to the existing provisions under section 5 were considered necessary.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Taking Over of Bombay Airport

7531 SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal to take over the Bombay airport from the State Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Bombay Airport belongs to International Airports Authority of India. The question of take-over of the airport from the State Govern-

ment does not arise.

Financial Crisis in Power Projects

7532. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power projects have been facing financial crisis due to non-settlement of "excess payment" claims by the coal companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to overcome the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The power Utilities have complained about the delay in settlement of their claims on account of short receipt and lower grade of coal supplied by Coal Companies against advance payments made by the Utilities. Coal Companies have agreed to work with Utilities to establish a system for settlement of such claims within a month. Ministries of Power and Coal have discussed the issue in case of Gujarat Electricity Board and Maharashtra State Electricity Board and have decided tentative working arrangement for settlement of these claims. Depending on the success of this arrangement, it may be extended to other Utilities.

Supply of Power to Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh

7533. SHRI AMAR ROY PARDHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the number of Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh Territory;

(b) whether Electricity supply is being made by any of the State Electricity Boards to these

Enclaves;

(c) whether supply of electricity is as per their requirement;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate supply of electricity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (e). There are 119 exchangeable and 11 non-exchangeable Indian enclaves in Bangladesh. All Indian enclaves in Bangladesh are under the administrative control of the Government of Bangladesh. Government of India are, therefore, in no position to provide facilities like electricity to residents of our enclaves in Bangladesh. According to the provisions of the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement of 1974, the exchangeable enclaves of one country are to be absorbed into the latter's territory, without any claim of compensation on the part of the first country. As such, our 119 exchangeable enclaves in Bangladesh are expected to be absorbed into Bangladesh once the 1974 Agreement has been ratified by India. Facilities like electricity supply are therefore required to be provided to the residents of these enclaves by the Bangladesh Administration in the long term. However, when the administration of the 11 non-exchangeable Indian enclaves in Bangladesh reverts to India after the above mentioned notifications, such facilities would be required to be provided residents of these enclaves by the Government of India.

Economic Orientation to Foreign Policy

7534. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken/are being taken towards giving economic orientation to the foreign policy; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of External Affairs has taken several measures towards providing greater economic orientation to India's foreign policy. The changes that have taken place in the global, geopolitical scenario and the imperatives of our own economic reform programme have made it necessary for us to adapt our foreign policy accordingly, so that our economic and commercial interests get due priority. In this context, the Ministry and its Missions and Posts abroad have accorded high importance to attracting foreign investment, securing access to required technologies, aggressively promoting our exports and ensuring continued flow of financial resources from bilateral and multilateral channels. These are recognised as important foreign policy objectives requiring close economic interaction with major economic entities such as the European Community, USA, Japan, ASEAN and the Gulf. These are getting full and concerted attention of the Ministry of External Affairs in terms of the economic content of our foreign policy.

Writing off Debts by ITDC

7535. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the procedures and formalities laid down by the Union Government in order to write off the old debts in public sector undertakings;

(b) whether these formalities/procedures have been complied with by ITDC Management for writing off the old debts during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details and quantum of amount which has been written off by each department/unit of ITDC during the above period with rea-

sons and justification on each case?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a)
and (b). ITDC has laid down a procedure to write
off bad debts with the approval of its Board of

Directors. Before writing off any bad debt, ITDC
complies with the requirements of the said
procedure.

(c) Necessary information is given in the
attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Year	Name of the Unit	Amount (Rs.)
1989-90	Hotel Airport Ashok, Calcutta	Rs. 1855.74
	Ashok Yatri Niwas	Rs. 229.00
	Total	Rs. 2084.74
1990-91	Hotel Airport, Ashok, Calcutta	Rs. 861.51
	Airport Restaurant, Calcutta	Rs. 16712.01
	Total	Rs. 17573.52
1991-92		NIL

Accounts for the year 1992-93 are yet to be finalised.

N.B. Individually bill-wise amounts are very small. On the recommendations of Audit the amounts had been written off as the follow up cost would have been much more than the amounts involved.

Digging of Wells in U.P.

7536. SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake digging of more wells in Uttar Pradesh in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). Digging of wells is undertaken in Uttar Pradesh under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Ministry of Rural Development such as Million Wells Scheme of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Integrated Rural Development Programme. In addition, digging of wells is undertaken by State Government under various State Schemes. Details of these wells are not maintained at the Central Level.

(c) Does not arise.

Committee for Selection of National Network Programme

7537. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee has been constituted for selection of National Network Programmes to be telecast on Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the composition of the members of the committee and the method of selecting the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROAD-

CASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Buying of C-Dot by Russia

7538. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia is keen to buy C-Dot exchanges from India as reported in the "Economic Times" dated April 8, 1993;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions under which this agreement is likely to be held; and

(c) the details of the possibilities explored for the export of such equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Russia has shown interest in buying C-Dot exchanges. One Rural Automatic Exchange of 256 Port capacity has been installed in Sakhalinsk and is reported to be working satisfactorily. The terms and conditions of agreement are under negotiation.

Scheme on Mushroom during Eighth Plan

7539. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are implementing scheme for cultivation and processing of mushroom during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up spawn laboratories for mushroom cultivation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the location

of these laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Scheme for development of infrastructure for mushroom cultivation and processing being implemented during the 8th Plan, assistance in the form of grant-in-aid is made available for meeting the capital expenditure for setting up of Spawn Lab., Composite pasturisation facilities and processing facilities for mushrooms to the implementing agency in the public sector/joint sector/assisted sector undertakings, cooperative sector or autonomous/voluntary organisations. The Scheme, inter alia, includes providing assistance to the extent of 50% of the cost to central/state/joint sector undertakings, voluntary agencies etc. for setting up of special/air-conditioned chambers for storage of mushrooms.

(c) and (d). While this Ministry does not propose to set up Spawn Laboratory for mushroom cultivation, in 1992-93, the first year of the Eighth Plan, assistance was provided to M/s. Girijan Coopewrative Corpn. Ltd., Visakhapatnam (Rs. 17.21 lakhs), M/S . New India Cultural Spawn and Mushroom, Berhampur (Through OAIC (Rs. 6.00 lakhs), M/s. Satpura Integrated Rural Development Institution (SIRD I) Bhopal (Rs. 2.585 lakhs), Directorate of Horticulture, Kohima (Rs. 6.00 lakhs) and M/s. Mizoram

Food & Allied Industries Corporation Ltd., Aizawl (Rs. 29.80 lakhs) for developing infrastructure for mushroom cultivation and processing which includes establishment of Spawn Laboratory.

STD on National Highway in Gujarat

7540. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to install STD public telephones on national highway in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir, STD Public Telephones are being allotted along or near National Highways including those in Gujarat initially with a spacing of 50 Kms and progressively with 10 Kms spacing.

(b) and (c). Details are given in the attached statement. This programme will be implemented progressively subject to availability of STD network and other infrastructural facilities, and is likely to be completed before March, 94.

STATEMENT

National Highway Number	50 K spacing			10 Km spacing		
	Target	Achievement	short fall	Target	Achievement	short fall
8	12	12	-	53	35	18
8A	8	6	2	38	8	30
8B	5	5	-	22	8	14
15	5	1	4	21	1	20
Total	30	24	6	134	52	82

Earth Stations in Andhra Pradesh

7541. SHRI DHARMA BIKSHAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had decided to set up earth stations in the country for the delivery of money orders through Satellite; and

(b) if so, the places where such Stations have been set up and proposed to be set up, separately, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) The proposal is to instal Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) or micro earth stations, Computers and other necessary peripherals at 75 stations in India in such a manner that information of money orders keyed in at one such unit will instantaneously reach any other unit so that, on receipt of information arrangements may be made to pay the money orders.

(b) the information is furnished in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

List of Proposed Locations for Micro Earth Stations (Vasts)

Sl No.	Name of the Circle	Town/Cities
1.	Assam	1. Guwahati, 2. Silcher, 3. Tezpur, 4. Dibrugarh, 5. North Lakhimpur.
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Hyderabad, 2. Vijayawada, 3. Visakhapatnam, 4. Tirupathi, 5. Kurnool.
3.	Bihar	1. Patna, 2. Ranchi, 3. Gaya, 4. Purnia 5. Dharbhanga, 6. Madhepura, 7. Muzaffarpur.
4.	Delhi	1. New Delhi G.P.O.
5.	Gujarat	1. Rajkot, 2. Baroda, 3. Ahmedabad
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Simla, 2. Mandi
7.	Haryana	1. Ambala, 2. Rohtak
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1. Jammu, 2. Srinagar
9.	Karnataka	1. Bangalore, 2. Mysore, 3. Dharwad, 4. Bangalore, 5. Raichur
10.	Kerala	1. Trivandrum, 2. Calicut, 3. Cochin
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1. Raipur, 2. Jabalpur, 3. Indore, 4. Ratla, 5. Bhopal, 6. Gwalior
12.	Maharashtra	1. Nagpur, 2. Bombay, 3. Pune, 4. Panaji, 5. Aurangabad.

Sl No.	Name of the Circle	Town/Cities
13.	North Eastern	1. Shillong, 2. Aizawl, 3. Agartala, 4. Kohima.
14.	Orissa	1. Bhubaneswar, 2. Sambalpur.
15.	Punjab	1. Ludhiana, 2. Jalandhar.
16.	Rajasthan	1. Jaipur, 2. Jodhpur, 3. Udaipur, 4. Ajmer, 5. Kota.
17.	Tamil Nadu	1. Madras, 2. Coimbatore, 3. Madurai, 4. Trichi, 5. Thanjavur.
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Lucknow, 2. Kanpur, 3. Varanasi, 4. Agra, 5. Allahabad, 6. Saharanpur, 7. Bareilly, 8. Rudraprayag.
19.	West Bengal	1. Calcutta, 2. Siliguri, 3. Port Blair,

(The Micro earth stations indicated above have not yet been set up).

Telephone to Employees

7542. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telephone facilities to their employees like concessions granted to railway and Indian Airlines and Air India employees; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government because of its wide ranging implications.

Review of Schemes on Deep Sea Fishing

7543. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any review of Deep Sea Fishing Policy and schemes taken up for execution under this policy; and

(b) if so, the main outcome of the review and the follow up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

S.T.D and speed Post facilities In U.P.

7544. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of

COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh where speed post services and S.T.D facilities are still not available with reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints about delay in or non-delivery of letters/packets in the State through speed post service;

(c) if so, the percentage of such letters/packets during last three years; and

(d) the time by which all district headquarters are proposed to be covered under speed post service network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The list of District Headquarters where Speed Post Service is not available is annexed. Speed Post Service is provided only in such cities/towns where there is need for such a service and it is commercially viable and operationally feasible and, therefore, the question of providing Speed Post facility at all district headquarters of the State does not arise.

All the 63 district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh have been provided with STD facility.

(b) Occasional complaints of non delivery/delay in delivery of Speed Post articles are received which are negligible as compared to the total traffic handled by Uttar Pradesh Circle.

(c) The position is as indicated below:

Year	Total Traffic of Speed Post articles handled.	No. of complaints received.	W.r.t. total traffic
1989-90	1,39,989	287	0.20%
1990-91	2,00,969	195	0.09%
1991-92	2,77,709	460	0.19%

(d) Does not arise.

Statement to be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha vide part (a) of Unstarred Question No.7544 for 3.5.1993

ANNEXURE

List of Distt. headquarters in Uttar Pradesh where Speed Post Service is not available.

1. Bijnor
2. Bulandshahar
3. Chandoli
4. Pauri
5. Tehri
6. Uttarakashi
7. Banda
8. Etawah
9. Fatehpur
10. Farrukhabad
11. Hamirpur
12. Jalaun
13. Mainpuri
14. Mirzapur
15. Unnao
16. Lalitpur
17. Faizabad
18. Jaunpur
19. Sultanpur

20. Azamgarh
21. Ballia
22. Ghazipur
23. Almora
24. Budaun
25. Rampur
26. Etah
27. Pithoragarh
28. Firojabad
29. Siddharth Nagar
30. Sonbhadra (Robertsganj)
31. Maharajganj

[Translation]

T.V. Coverage in U.P

7545. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to link the uncovered places in Uttar Pradesh with the Doordarshan network during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for implementing this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Out of the TV transmitters of varying powers presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in Uttar Pradesh, 5 low power TV

transmitters at Rasrs, Sikandarpur, Champawat, Kotdwar and Mohammadabad and 3 very low power TV transmitters at Chaukhutia, Joshimath and Didihat, are expected to be commissioned during 1993-94. The total capital cost for setting up of these 8 TV transmitters is about Rs. 685.00 lakhs.

[English]

Visit of US Delegation

7546. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high-level US delegation visited India during December 1992; and

(b) if so, the subjects discussed and the broad outcome of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) A US Congressional delegation comprising Senators David Boren, Carl Levin and Claiborne Pell visited India from December 8 to 9, 1992.

(b) The delegation discussed a wide range of issues relating to security, disarmament, human rights, economic reforms, Sino-Indian and Indo-Pak relations during their meeting with Indian dignitaries and officials. These briefings contributed to a greater appreciation of India's views and perspectives on these issues.

[Translation]

Villages connected with Cities by Telephones in Gujarat

7547. SHRIDILEFPBHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages of Gujarat which have been connected with cities through telephone lines under the scheme of connecting villages to cities through telephone, and

(b) the number of villages of the State proposed to be connected during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) As on 31.3.1993, there are 5808 such villages in Gujarat.

(b) 4500 Panchayat Villages.

[English]

Expenditure on Advertisements

7548. SHRI R. DHANUSKODIATHATHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by his Ministry on advertisement on Tourism; the Air India and the Indian Air-lines during 1991-92; and

(b) the value of advertisements which have been given to the newspapers, language-wise, during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Power Requirement in Gujarat

7549. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power supplied to Gujarat falls short of its requirement;

(b) if so, the effects of shortage on the

farmers;

(c) the requirement and supply of power to Gujarat during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the availability of power in the State is less in comparison to other States; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). During the period April 92-March 93, the energy requirement in Gujarat was 26500 MU against which the availability was 25712 which represents a shortage of 3%. At present, agricultural sector is being supplied power for about 21 hrs/day average.

(c) The details of actual power supply position in Gujarat during the last three years i.e. 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given below:-

(All figures in MU net)

Actual

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Requirement	23305	25505	26500
Availability	22358	24417	25712
Shortage	947	1088	788
% shorgage	4.1	4.3	3.0

(d) Statewise energy availability during 1992-93 is given in the attached statement.

(e) Various measures taken to improve the availability

STATEMENT

Statewise Energy Availability During 1992-93

(Figs. in MU net)

Region/State/System	Availability
Northern Region	
Chandigarh	628
Delhi	10098
Haryana	11079
Himachal Pradesh	1513
Jammu and Kashmir	2932
Punjab	17506
Rajasthan	14081
Uttar Pradesh	29118
Total (NR)	86973
Western Region	
Gujarat	25712
Madhya Pradesh	20675

(Figs. in MU net)

Region/State/System	Availability
Maharashtra	41387
Goa	776
Total (W.R.)	88550
Southern Region	
Andhra Pradesh	24281
Karnataka	16050
Kerala	7416
Tamil Nadu	24060
Total (S.R.)	71807
Eastern Region	
Bihar	5243
D.V.C.,	5767
Orissa	7156

(Figs. in MU net)

Region/State/System	Availability
West Bengal	11196
Total (E.R.)	29362
Northern Eastern Region	
Arunachal Pradesh	111.1
Assam	2040.2
Manipur	258.1
Meghalaya	282.8
Mizoram	87.2
Nagaland	121.0
Tripura	231.3
Total (N.E.R.)	3132
All India	279824

Harness of Water of the West Flowing Rivers in Arabian Sea

7550. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has urged the Union Government to conserve/harness the water of the west flowing rivers that are ending in the Arabian Sea;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to prevent river waters flowing into the Arabian sea; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). No such request has been received in the Ministry of Water Resources from the State Government of Kerala. As per present policy, it is for the State Government to plan, formulate and execute Water Resources Development Schemes from its plan resources.

(c) and (d). A National Perspective for Water Resources Development prepared by Government envisages inter-linkage between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers separately for transfer of water from water rich basins to water short basins for optimum utilisation of water resources. Government has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 to firm up these proposals. While office studies of 9 links under Peninsular component have been completed, studies of balance links have been included in the VIII plan. Also, field investigations of 9 links of Peninsular component and 3 links of Himalayan component have been included in the VIII

Plan Programme of the Agency.

[Translation]

English Film 'Making of India'

7551. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to produce an English film entitled 'Making of India' on the life of Mahatma Gandhi with collaboration of South Africa;

(b) whether the script of the film and all other formalities regarding production of film have since been completed; and

(c) if so, the approximate cost in the production of the film?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Government have received a proposal to produce, in collaboration with South Africa, a film called "Making of a Mahatma" on Mahatma Gandhi's stay in South Africa.

(b) Does not arise at this stage.

(c) The approximate cost of the project is Rs. 3.5 crores.

[English]

Demand and Supply of Coal and Gas to Power Houses

7552. PROF. ASHOK ANAND RAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI R. DHANUSKODIATHITAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of Coal and Gas by

the Power Houses in each State;

(b) the quantity supplied during the last three years till March 1993;

(c) whether there is any shortage in the supply and demand of coal and gas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: (a) to (c). The total coal linkage for the Power Houses of Central, State and other Pri-

vate Sector, actual receipt of coal by these power houses and the percentage shortfall in receipt, during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 is given in the attached statement.

(d) The position of coal supply to various power houses is monitored by a High Level Committee periodically and necessary remedial measures taken by concerned organisations.

Similar information regarding supply of gas to power houses is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the Linkage Vs Receipts of coal at NTPC and Other Sector Power Houses during the Years 1990-91, 91-92, & 92-93

(Figures in 000 Tonnes)

Name of SEB/ Sector	1990-91			1991-92			1992-93		
	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
CENTRAL SECTOR									
N.T.P.C. LTD.									
Badarpur	3660	3552	97	3840	3330	87	3960	3928	99
Unchahar	-	-	-	-	-	-	2040	1641	80
Rihand STPS	2565	1811	71	3960	3659	92	3855	3578	93
Stingrauli STPS	7350	7096	97	7470	8080	108	8070	7990	99
Kota STPS	8340	8061	97	9000	8973	100	9105	9328	102
Vindhyachal STPS	3645	2953	81	4680	3956	84	4335	3773	87
Pondich STPS	7080	5232	74	8100	7514	93	7850	8366	107

(Figures in 000 Tonnes)

Name of SEB/ Sector	1990-91			1991-92			1992-93		
	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Farraku STPS	3810	2565	67	3630	3125	86	3630	3440	95
NCTPS	-	-	-	180	-	-	480	369	77
Kahalgao	-	-	-	50	-	-	420	26	6
TOTAL NTPC	36450	31270	66	40910	38627	94	43845	42439	97
D.V.C.	4560	3541	78	4110	3714	90	4980	3890	78
PRIVATE SECTOR									
Ahmedabad	1980	1390	70	1950	1457	75	1920	1226	64
CPAS	2325	2068	89	2775	2224	80	2850	2353	83
Trombay	375	157	42	450	165	37	600	290	48
TOTAL PVT. SECTOR.	4680	3615	77	5175	3856	74	5370	3869	72

(Figures in 000 Tonnes)

Name of SEB/ Sector	1990-91			1991-92			1992-93		
	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
STATE SECTOR									
DESU	1575	1271	81	1960	82	1920	1581	82	
HSEB	3240	1962	61	3510	2296	77	3780	3065	81
RSEB	2565	1493	58	3300	2626	80	3300	3142	95
RSEP	5610	3996	71	6450	4232	66	6045	5190	86]
UPFFP	15549	11587	75	15969	10915	68	13602	11672	86
GEB	10770	7450	69	12555	8260	66	12825	10297	80
MPEB	12330	9523	77	12225	9582	78	12216	10276	84
MSEB	21240	16626	78	23805	18905	79	23505	19824	84
APSEB	7245	6024	83	9000	7118	79	8445	7497	89
TNEB	8775	6527	74	10740	7844	73	9870	8540	87

(Figures in 000 Tonnes)

Name of SEB/ Sector	1990-91			1991-92			1992-93		
	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age	Linkage	Receipts	%age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
KPC	2430	2077	85	3600	2006	56	3180	1941	61
BSEB	3840	2301	60	3141	2040	65	3447	2711	79
OSEB	1410	1260	89	1140	1990	96	1200	1310	109
WBSEB	2640	1664	62	2385	1694	71	2235	1698	79
WBPDC	2070	1591	77	3210	2499	78	3450	2721	79
DPL	930	602	65	840	492	59	825	680	82
ASEB	420	228	54	510	276	54	480	281	59
Small TPS	360	113	31	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL STATE SECTOR	102999	76295	74	114340	83882	73	110325	92426	84
TOTAL INDIA	148689	114721	77	164535	130069	79	164520	142624	87

Recovery of Loans from SAARC Countries

7553. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts for the recovery of loans provided to the SAARC member countries; and

(b) if so, the target fixed for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) In the case of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, the repayment of instalments of loans advanced to these two countries, is being made regularly, as per the credit agreements.

In the case of Bhutan, the rescheduled repayment of the outstanding loan would start from 1/7/93.

In the case of Maldives and Pakistan, no loan has been extended and in the case of Nepal, full repayment of past loan has been concluded.

(b) As repayments are being made regularly in accordance with the relevant agreements, the question of fixing targets does not arise.

Schemes for Food Processing Industries

7554. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 1019 on March 1, 1993 and state:

(a) the particulars of the schemes being implemented by various organisations with Central assistance, State-wise;

(b) the salient features of the terms of

financial assistance;

(c) the expenditure involved in these schemes as on March 31, 1993;

(d) the production target and capacity of each scheme in terms of the weight of animal meat produced and the number of animals required for the purpose;

(e) the achievements made and proposed to be made in this regard; and

(f) the extent to which the production under these schemes is earmarked for export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (f). The particulars of the scheme being implemented by various organisations with Central assistance which have been referred in the Unstarred Question No. 1019 replied on March 1, 1993 are development of sheep, goat and buffalo meat processing plants. Under these schemes the following projects with Central assistance are being implemented:-

- i) establishment of sheep/goat meat processing plant by Assam Livestock and Poultry Development Corporation, Guwahati (Assam State). Ministry of Food Processing Industries has given Rs. 50 lakhs as equity in 1991-92 to the Corporation for the establishment of this plant.
- ii) Establishment of buffalo meat processing plant under joint venture by Punjab Agro Industries Corporation, Chandigarh (Punjab State) and Punjab Meats Limited. The Ministry has given Rs. 100 lakhs as equity in 1991-92 and 1992-93 to Punjab Agro Industries Corporation, Chandigarh.
- iii) establishment of sheep/goat/buffalo abattoir/meat processing plant by

Bangalore Animal Food Corporation, Bangalore (Karnataka State). The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has given Rs. 53 lakhs as equity share for this plant in 1992-93.

Generally, the terms of financial assistance under which the above mentioned equity share are contributed include that 50% of the capital cost contributed as equity contribution of the Central Government does not exceed 50% of the total equity of the State Corporation/undertaking. The second condition is that in case of Joint sector projects Central equity contribution will be to the extent of 25% of the project cost. The third condition is that the equity will be exclusively used for the purpose it has been sanctioned. Fourthly, that the progress report of the project should be submitted to the Ministry. Fifthly, the matching contribution as proposed in the project should be released by State Government/Corporation/any other agency (as the case may be) immediately after receiving the equity share from the Government. Sixthly, a representative of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries to be taken as a Director on the Board. Seventhly, share certificates should be issued in favour of the President of India and sent to this Ministry and annual report of the activities and audited annual accounts as per the Companies' Act, of 1956 to be sent to the Ministry at the close of the financial year.

The capacities and the meat production of the above mentioned projects are as follows:-

- i) sheep and goat meat plant Guwahati - 1500-2000 sheep/goat per day. The weight of animal meat produced may be calculated on the dressed carcass weight of the goat/sheep which is about 9 Kg per animal in case of Assam.
- ii) Buffalo meat processing plant (Punjab) - maximum installed capacity of the plant is 10,000 Metric tonnes of the boneless frozen buffalo meat per annum. The number of animals to

be slaughtered may be calculated from the carcass weight of buffalo which is about 132 Kg per animal and 40 to 50% of the carcass weight is the boneless buffalo meat.

- iii) sheep/goat/buffalo etc. abattoir/meat processing plant (Bangalore) - the capacity of slaughter is about 150-200 number of buffaloes etc. and 3,000 number of sheep and goat per day.

It is proposed to achieve the establishment of modern abattoirs with meat processing facilities with the capacities mentioned about to process hygienic meat for the domestic consumption and export. The project of buffalo meat processing (Punjab) has 100% export component whereas the export component of other two projects has not been earmarked.

Reserved Posts for Handicapped Postmen in Gujarat

7555. SHRI. N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of the posts of postmen reserved under the category of physically handicapped in Gujarat which have not been filled up;
- (b) the steps taken to fill up the said posts in Gujarat especially in Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahal districts; and
- (c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) 7 posts of postmen cadre under the category of Physically handicapped are vacant in Gujarat.

(b) Steps are taken to fill up the said posts by calling for applications from amongst the physically handicapped candidates. However

there are no vacant posts at Vadodra, Bharuch and Panchamaharashtra districts.

(c) The posts are likely to be filled up during the year.

Structural Reforms Programme for Power Sector

7556. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL;
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed a three-year structural reforms programme for the power sector;

(b) if so, the broad-features, thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. The Union Government have no proposal for a three-year structural reforms programme for the power Sector.

(b) and (c). Does not arise. However, an action plan to improve plant load factor, reduce transmission and distribution losses and improve performances of State Electricity Boards has been adopted during the Power Ministers' Conference held on 8-9th January, 1993.

Power Projects in Maharashtra

7557. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of central power projects in Maharashtra which are likely to be completed during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) the quantum of power generation to-

gether with the quantum of power allocation to be made to Maharashtra from each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). No Central Sector Power generation Project in Maharashtra is expected to be commissioned during the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

Use of Government Planes

7558. SHRID. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned misuse of Government planes by VIPs routine appearing in the Times of India dated January 7, 1993;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the misuse of Government planes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

World Bank Loan for Power Utilities

7559. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loan has been sought from the World Bank for the purchase of two central power utilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount of World Bank assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Overseas Communication Services

7560. SHRIN. JRATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide overseas communication services at cheaper rates;

(b) whether any agreement has been reached between the Overseas Communication Corporation and the Department of Telecommunications on this account;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the likely increase in the availability of overseas communication services as a result of cheaper rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir, There is no such proposal at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise in view of answer to (a) & (b) above.

(d) Question does not arise in view of answer to (a) & (b) above.

Newspapers Published from Kerala

7561. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the weeklies, fortnightlies and monthlies published from Kerala and their circulation;

(b) whether the Government has received any requests for the registration of more periodicals from Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The details of periodicals published from various States and Union Territories as on 31.12.90 is available in the Parliament House library, which included 165 weeklies, 702 monthlies and 143 fortnightlies from Kerala. The details have been updated by the office of Registrar of Newspapers for India upto 31.12.91. During the period. 1.1.91 to 31.12.91, two weeklies and 18 monthlies from Kerala have been registered and their particulars are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c). Applications of five weeklies, three fortnightlies and 12 monthlies from Kerala are pending for registration upto 23.4.1993.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Publication	Language/ Periodicity	Place of Publication	Circulation
1.	Voice of Ration Dealers	Mal/W	Trivandru	NS
2.	Yellow Card	Mal/W	Cochin	NS
3.	Vijaya Gandeervam	Mal/W	Trivandrum	NS
4.	Sales Tax Voice	Bil/M	Trivandrum	NS
5.	Jayadhwani	Mal/M	Alleppey	N ^c
6.	National Ex-Servicemen Bulletin	Eng/M	Emakulam	NS
7.	Cine-Tech.	Bil/	Trivandrum	NS
8.	Darpanam	Mal/M	Alleppey	NS
9.	Perestroika	Mal/M	Trivandrum	NS
10.	Sazurayoodam	Mal/M	Trivandrum	NS
11.	Indian Messenger	Mal/M	Cochin	NS
12.	Quiz India	Mal/M	Kottayam	NS
13.	Kerala Deepthi	Mal/M	Kottayam	NS

Sl. No.	Name of the Publication	Language/ Periodicity	Place of Publication	Circulation
14.	Labour India Balamasika	Mal/M	Kottayam	NS
15.	Thozhilali Keralam	Mal/MM	Trivandrum	NS
16.	Ruram Press	Mal/M	Trivandrum	NS
17.	Bahujana Sadam	Mal/M	Trivandrum	NS
18.	Pradhana Vartha	Mal/M	Trivandrum	NS
19.	Kerala Industrial Express	Bil/M	Trivandrum	NS
20.	Spice India	Eng/M	Cochin	NS
	Mal - Malayalam			
	Bil - Bilingual			
	Eng - English			
	W - Weekly			
	M - Monthly			
	NS - Not supplied			

Regional Programmes on Channel II

7562. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether new programmes are being telecast on Channel II of Doordarshan from April 1, 1993;

(b) whether the regional language programmes do not find a place in these programmes;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to include regional language programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The present is only an interim arrangement aimed at making this time chunk an attractive proposition for the programmers, the advertisers and the viewers all over the country where these programmes (in English and Hindi at present), which are being uplinked via satellite, can be received (except in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras where they are also available terrestrially) through appropriate dish antenna. Greater variety of programming, including in regional languages, would be considered at a later date.

Arrest of Indians off Pakistani Coast

7563. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons belonging to various Parts of Gujarat were arrested and jailed by the Pakistani authorities off the coast of that country enroute to Dubai during the month of October, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation in this regard;

(d) if so, the response thereto;

(e) whether the Government have taken up this matter with that country; and

(f) if so, the action taken by the Government for their early release and repatriation to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). 76 Indian nationals, reportedly on their way to Dubai for employment, landed at Jiwhani on the Makran Coast in Pakistan on 18/10/1992. They were arrested by the Pak authorities. Pak authorities have filed a case against them for illegally entering Pakistan.

(c) Government have received representations seeking its intervention with Government of Pakistan to obtain the release of the detained Indian nationals.

(d) to (f). Our Mission in Islamabad and Consulate General in Karachi are in constant touch with the Pak authorities in this matter.

Government are actively pursuing with the Government of Pakistan through the diplomatic channels the issue of expeditious release of the 76 Indian nationals with a view to arranging their early repatriation to India.

Documentaries Produced by Film Division

7564. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of documentaries (apart from the news review) produced by the Films Division during each of the last three years;

(b) the break-up of the production in each year, language-wise; and

(b). A Statement is annexed.

(c) the target for 1993-94 and the number of documentaries under production as on April 1, 1993?

(c) As on 1.4.93, there are 290 documentary films on the production programme of Films Division out of which 210 are under active production and work on the balance of 80 films is yet to commence. The production target of documentaries for the year 1993-94 is given as under:-

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and

1)	Theatrical release films	:	26
2)	Non-theatrical release films	:	10
3)	On direct payment basis (Sponsored by various Ministries/ Departments/Public Enterprises etc.		20
4)	16 mm featurette films	:	28
5)	Instructional, training and teaching films for Ministry of Defence	:	8 to 10 films
6)	Instructional and Motivational Films for Department of Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	:	15 to 20 films

STATEMENT

Year-wise and Language-wise break-up of nuber of documentary films produced by Films Division during the last three years

Basic Version Language	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Hindi	53	42	59
English	22	27	24
Punjabi	6	-	-
Gujarati	5	-	-
Marathi	5	1	-
Oriya	6	1	-
Bengali	7	-	-
Urdu	7	-	-
Kashmiri	-	-	-
Sindhi	-	-	-
Malayalam	6	-	-
Telugu	6	-	-

Basic Version Language	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Kannada	6	1	-
Tamil	7	-	-
Assamese	6	-	-
Total	142	72	83
Without commentary i.e. only Music	4	8	2
Magamese language	1	-	-
	147	80	85

**New Air/Doordarshan Kendras in
Maharashtra and Goa**

7565. SHRI S. B. THORAT:
SHRI HARISH NARAYANAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed any target for opening new Radio station, Doordarshan Kendras, Production Studios and other network in Maharashtra/Goa during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the places where such projects are likely to be set up; and

(c) the details of action plan for expansion/modernisation of Information and Broadcasting Network in Maharashtra/Goa finalised/under consideration during Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). The Eighth Plans of Air/Doordarshan comprises of continuing schemes of Seventh Plan, Annual Plans 1990-91, 1991-92 and new schemes of Eighth Plan. The details of AIR/Doordarshan projects presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State of Maharashtra/Goa are given in the attached statement. However, locations for setting up additional TV transmitters in the country during the remaining period of Eighth Plan i.e. 1993-97 have not been finalised.

STATEMENT

AIR/Doordarshan projects presently under implementation on/envisaged to be set up in the State of Maharashtra/Goa

ALL INDIA RADIO

S.No.	Place	Scheme
Maharashtra		
1.	Bombay	Type III (R) Studios (Commercial services to Gulf countries)
2.	Dhule	2x3 KW FM Transitter, Multipurposes studios (Local Radio station)
3.	Nasik	- do -
4.	Osmanabad	- do -
5.	Bombay	50 KW SW Transmitter in place of 10 KW SW Transmitter
6.	Parbhani	Type IV (R) Studios
7.	Bombay	Modernisation and refurbishing of studios.
8.	Sangli	20 KW MW Transmitter in place of 20 KW W Transmitter.
9.	Parbhani	20 KW MW Transmitter in place of 10 KW MW Transmitter.
10.	Bombay	2x5 KW FM Transmitter (Stereo transmission)

Scheme

Place

S. No.

Maharashtra

- | | | |
|----|--------|--|
| 1. | Bombay | 2x5 Kw FM Transmitter (Nation Channel) |
| | Goa | |
| 1. | Panaji | 2x250 KW SW Transmitter (Commercial service to Gulf countries) |
| 2. | Panaji | 20 KW W Transmitter in place of 5 KW MW Transmitter |
| 3. | Panaji | Type III (R) Studios. |

S.No.	Place	Scheme
Maharashtra		
1.	Bombay	Studio (Expansion).
2.	Hathi Khamba	High Power Transmitter
3.	Jalgaon	- do -
4.	Akot	Low Power Transmitter
5.	Hinganghat	- do -
6.	Khamgaon	- do -
7.	Akluj	- do -
8.	Kankauli	- do -
9.	Washim	- do -
10.	Chiplun	- do -
11.	Umerga	- do -
12.	Sangamner	- do -

DOORDARSHAN

S.No.	Place	Scheme
Maharashtra		
13.	Chikaldhara	- do -
14.	Junnar	Very Low Power Transmitter
15.	Khed	- do -
16.	Karjat	- do -
17.	Adiyal Tekdi	- do -
	Goa	
	NIL	

Change in Priority Pattern for STD Booths

7566. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have changed the priority pattern for allotting the ISD/STD Public Telephones to SC/ST and other weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, the details with reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to review this decision;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e). The entire policy of providing ISD/STD, public Telephones/Local Public Telephones is being reviewed.

[Translation]

Use of Telephones in Gram Panchayats

7567. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for providing telephone connections to Gram Panchayats in the country;

(b) whether telephone connections provided at the houses of Gram Pradhans are being utilised properly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Government have adopted a policy to provide telephone facility to all Panchayat Villages without any consideration of profit or loss progressively by 31st March, 1995 subject to availability of resources. The criteria adopted by the Department is to provide one telephone in each Panchayat Village for connecting rural areas to the mainstream of telecom network in the country. These telephones are essentially meant to meet the socio-economic need of the public.

(b) The above telephones are to be provided at a place easily accessible to the public e.g. Post Office, Panchayat Headquarter, or a Grocer's shop and not at the houses of Gram Pradhans or any other individual.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Since the inception of above policy in January, 1991, the Department has covered 21,752 Panchayat Villages during 1991-92 and 30,072 during 1992-93 under the above policy.

Bangladesh Immigrants

7568. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue relating to the return of the illegal Bangladeshi immigrants was discussed during his recent talks with the foreign Minister of Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issue of illegal immigration from Bangladesh was discussed during the meeting between External Affairs Minister and the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh in Dhaka on April

8, 1993.

External Affairs Minister emphasised the need to resolve this issue early and also stressed the requirement of stopping further illegal migration from Bangladesh to India seeking the cooperation of the Government of Bangladesh in these matters. It was agreed to continue discussions on this issue to resolve it amicably.

[English]

Prime Minister Talks with Bangladesh Leaders

7569. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister held any talks, with the leaders of Bangladesh during his recent visit to that country in connection with the SAARC Summit;

(b) if so, the broad outcome thereof;

(c) whether the issue of sharing of Ganga water also figured in the talks; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Bilateral issues discussed by the Prime Minister with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh during his recent visit to Dhaka included sharing of Ganga waters between India and Bangladesh, demarcation of the Indo-Bangladesh land boundary and maritime boundary, repatriation of Chakma refugees, cooperation in the gas sector, setting up of rail links, promotion of bilateral trade etc.

These discussions were in the context of the mutual desire to resolve outstanding issues through dialogue. It was agreed to continue the

dialogue.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d). On the issue of sharing of Ganga waters it was agreed that proposals for a lasting and comprehensive settlement would be developed and the bilateral dialogue would be continued.

Malayalam Programmes from Trivandrum Doordarshan

7570. SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Malayalam programmes telecast by the Trivandrum Doordarshan Kendra reach all the districts of the State;

(b) if so, the details of the districts covered and districts not covered by these programmes;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to cover all the districts of Kerala through satellite transponders;

(d) whether his Ministry has sought any help/cooperation from the Ministry of Science and Technology in this connection; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The regional (Malayalam) service programmes put out by Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum are available to 11 out of 14 districts of Kerala either wholly or partially, viz. Kozhikode, Mallapuram, Palghat, Trichur, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kottayam, Alleppey, Pathanamthitta, Quilon and Trivandrum. However, these

programmes are not available to the remaining 3 districts.

(c) Yes, Sir. A satellite-derived regional TV service is envisaged to be introduced in Kerala using INSAT-II series of satellite subject to availability of adequate resources and facility in the space segment.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Investment by Public Sector Undertakings

7571. HRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount earmarked for Public Sector Power Units for generation of power during 1992-93;

(b) whether these amounts are fully utilised by these units;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the amount allocated for the above units is not being mobilised by the Government; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (e). As against the plan outlay of Rs. 5071.00 crores earmarked for the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power (excluding REC) during 1992-93, the actual utilisation, according to the provisional figures available, was Rs. 3478.15 crores. The shortfall in utilisation of the outlay was mainly due to the difficulties in mobilisation of resources through Bonds during the year.

Construction of Motels and Yatri Niwas in Maharashtra

7572. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of motels and yatri niwas constructed in Maharashtra with the financial assistance provided by the Union Government during 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(b) the quantum of central assistance provided to the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The General Department of Tourism has sanctioned one Yatri Niwas at Latur during 1991-92 for Rs. 19.71 lakhs.

Agreement with Radison Group of Hotels by ITDC

7573. SHRIMUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any contract between the India Tourism Development Corporation and the Radison group of hotels of America has been signed;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof;

(c) whether the corporation has suffered heavy losses of foreign exchange in this contract;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b). ITDC signed a franchise agreement with M/s Radisson Hotel Corporation in June 90 for securing marketing, technical and consultancy services for its selected 4 hotels. The agreement came into effect from 1 Oct 90 and was concluded in Aug 91.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) The agreement has already been concluded.

Commission on Sustainable Development

7574 SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Commission on sustainable development has been set up as a follow-up of the Earth Summit held at Rio in June 1992;

(b) if so, the objectives, functions and compositions of the above Commission;

(c) if not, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(d) the programme of action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMANKHURSHED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The CSO will monitor progress and effective follow-up of the Rio Conference, enhance international cooperation for the Integration of environment and development issues and examine the progress of the implementation of Agenda 21. The Commission consists of representatives of fifty-three States elected by the Economic and Social Council from among the Members of the United Nations and member of its specialized agencies.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) The National Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development was emanated, and placed before the Parliament by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 2nd June, 1992. Agenda-21 has been included in the programme of action of concerned Ministries. The Government will work actively to ensure realisation of the goals and objectives set out during United Nations Conference on Environment and Development with particular emphasis on the need for a balance between Environment and Development.

Marine Fisheries Resource

7575. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any survey on marine fisheries resources in coastal States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the fishing potential expected in the new areas State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes Sir. The fishery resources off the Maritime States of the country upto EEZ have been surveyed.

(b) and (c). As per the latest assessment, the potential of the fishery resources in the entire Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is estimated at 3.9 million tonnes. Since the fishery resources do not restrict themselves to specified coastal areas because of their migratory nature, State-wise precautions are normally not made.

However, the resources off the States of Orissa and West Bengal between 0 to 200 metres depth have been roughly estimated as follows:

Orissa 126000 Tonnes
 West Bengal 1199000 Tonnes
 The resources beyond 50 metre depth,

which are till now under exploited, are estimated to be 1.64 million tonnes the break up of which regionwise, is as follows:-

1.	Northwest Coast	-	567000 Tonnes
2.	Southwest Coast	-	357000 Tonnes
3.	Lower East Coast	-	101000 Tonnes
4.	Upper East Coast	-	164000 Tonnes
5.	Lakhadweep	-	63000 Tonnes
6.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	139000 Tonnes
7.	Oceanic and Nocobar Inslands & Oceanic Tunas and Allied Resources in Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).	-	246000 Tonnes

Smuggling on Delhi-Guwahati Railway Route

7576. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the smuggling of goods through hawkers on Guwahati-Delhi railway route;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent such unauthorised vending and hawking of smuggled goods in the various Mail/Express train on this route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No such case has come to notice.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Unauthorised hawking and vending in trains and station premises is an offence under the Railways Act 1989. Regular checks are conducted by Railway Officials with the help of G.R.P. and R.P.F. personnel and action is taken

against the persons apprehended under the provisions of the Railways Act.

Railway Land in Bandra

7577. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please to state:

(a) whether a township has been developed on railway land at behrampada in Bandra (Bombay);

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government had authorised to develop such a township there;

(d) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to remove the unauthorised structures from railway land there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir. Only a part of Behrampada area in Bandra belonging to Railways has been en-

croach'ed upon by hutment dwellers.

(b) There are about 2603 hutments

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) Action is being taken to evict the encroachers from railway land under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. Assistance of the State Government is also regularly taken. A case for eviction of 1085 hutment dwellers was initiated in September, 1990 and orders for eviction have been passed by Estate Officer. However these have been stayed under Supreme Court's orders. The matter is sub-Judice.

Refund for Unutilised Tickets

7578. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims for refund or unutilized tickets received by the office of the Chief Commercial Supdt., Central Railway, Bombay from Chief Commercial Supdt., Southern Railway during January to March, 1991;

(b) the number of claims out of them settled and money refunded;

(c) the number of claims in which payment has not been made so far and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the claims within reasonable period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Trains for Somnath Temple

7579. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce special trains from Delhi, Bombay, Ahmedabad and Madras to Keshod and Junsgadh for the facility of pilgrims visiting Somnath temple; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Filling up of Reserved Post in Delhi University

7580. SHRIN. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of teaching and non-teaching employees recruited in Delhi University during the last three years, category-wise;

(b) the number out of them belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes community;

(c) whether there is backlog in filling the reserved quota;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the backlog is likely to be filled up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the

Sabha.

Madhya Pradesh, district-wise?

[English]

Dairies in Co-Operative Sector

7581. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up various Dairy Co-operative Societies in the country by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the number of such Dairy Co-operative Societies proposed to be set up in

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NÉTAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Operation Flood III Programme which is being implemented in the country envisages setting up of 70,000 Dairy Cooperative Societies (DCS) by 1994, the end of Project period.

(b) 31 districts of Madhya Pradesh grouped into 7 milkshed unions are covered under the Operation Flood III Programme in the State. These unions have proposed to organise about 4117 DCS by 1994. The milkshed-wise details are as follows:

1. Milksheds	Districts	DCS to be organised by 1994
1. Ujjain	Mandsaur, Rattlam, Ujjain and Shajapur	1090
2. Indore	Indore, Dhar, Khargone, Dewas and Khandwa	943
3. Jabalpur	Jabalpur, Satna, Rewa and Seoni	236
4. Raipur	Bilaspur, Durg and Raipur	281
5. Bhopal	Betul, Hoshangabad, Sehore, Bhopal, Rajgarh, Vidisha and Raisen	688
6. Gwalior	Morena, Gwalior, Bhind, Datia and Shivpuri	704
7. Sagar	Sagar, Chattarpur and Tikamgarh	175
Total		4117

Paid up Capital of Food Corporation of India

7582. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the paid up capital of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal under consideration to give some of its work to the private sector in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a)

The paid up capital of the Food Corporation of India is Rs. 950.98 crores as on 31.3.93.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Railway Hospitals in Kerala

7583. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway hospitals functioning in Kerala;

(b) the facilities available there;

(c) whether there is any proposed to provide additional facilities in those hospitals and also to set up new railway hospitals in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Three.

(b) Almost all Specialist doctors, with adequate diagnostic facilities, are available in these hospitals

(c) and (d). There is no proposal at present to open a new railway hospital in Kerala. However, as a part of normal update, commensurate with facilities to railway beneficiaries, railway hospitals are being modernised with latest sophisticated equipment in a phased manner subject to availability of funds

Supply of Fertilizer

7584. SHRI PARA RAM BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the Fertilizer Control Order to deal with the

shortage situation; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard so that the fertilizers are supplied uniformly in each district according to the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). There is no shortage in the supply of fertilizers in the country. There is also no proposal for amendment of Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985, in this regard.

Change in Sugar Policy

7585. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times Sugar Policy has been changed since 1980;

(b) the benefits and losses suffered due to the frequent changes in this policy;

(c) the difficulties being faced by the Government at present in providing financial assistance to the co-operative sector; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Since 1980, the policy of partial control with dual pricing system in respect of sugar is continuing and there has been no change in the basic policy. However, certain modifications, such as change in levy-free sale ratio, increase in the Statutory Minimum Price of Sugarcane, etc., have been made from time to time.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Central Government is not providing any budgetary support to the sugar factories. However, loans at occasional rate of interest are provided to the sugar factories from

sugar Development Fund for modernisation and also for cane development Schemes. For encouraging entrepreneurs to set up new sugar factories and undertake expansion in the existing sugar factories to reach the minimum economic capacity, various incentive schemes providing for additional free sale quota have been formulated and revised from time to time.

**Contracts for Supply of Machineries to
Co-operative Sugar Factories**

7586. SHRI SHANKARRAO D. KALE:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for awarding contracts for supply of machineries to cooperative sugar factories by National Cooperative Development Corporation;

(b) the details of the suppliers of such machineries during the last three years;

(c) whether any case of irregularity in awarding of such contracts has come to the notice of Government; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Does not fix any criteria or frame rules for awarding contract for supply of plant & machinery to cooperative sugar factories. The orders for plant and machinery are finalised by the respective State Level Advisory Committee guided by the rules and procedures prescribed by the concerned State Government.

(b) The details of the suppliers of such machinery in respect of new Cooperative Sugar Factories for which investment loans were sanctioned by NCDC and those Sugar Mills for which term loan assistance for modernisation/ expansion of existing capacities as also the proposals pending with the NCDC are given in the attached Statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Details of suppliers of machinery to Cooperative Sugar Mills assisted by NCDC during the last three years (1-4-90 to 30-3-93) and for pending proposals

Abbreviations used

NHEC	=	National Heavy Engineering Cooperative, Pune.
WIL	=	Walchandnagar Industries Ltd., Pune.
KCP	=	K.C.P. Ltd., Madras.
ISGEC	=	Indian Sugar and General Engineering Cooperation Ltd., New Delhi.
PHEW	=	Prem Heavy Engineering Works, Ltd., Meerut.
TEW	=	Triveni Engineering Works Ltd., New Delhi.
BW	=	Backau Wolf Ltd., Pune.
ATV	=	Anand Tank and Vessels Ltd., Bombay.
TEXMACO	=	Texmaco Ltd., Calcutta.
SUMAC	=	Sumac International Pvt. Ltd., New Delh.
UIE	=	Ultam Industrial Engineers Ltd., Ghaziabad.

Abbreviations used

VP	=	Vikram Projects Ltd., Bombay.
BINNY	=	Binny Ltd., Madras.
APEB	=	APE Bellis Ltd., New Delhi.
CSM	=	Cooperative Sugar Mill.
SSK	=	Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana.
SKUM	=	Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandli.
KSCM	=	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mill.
KUSM	=	Khand Udyog Sahakari Mandli.

Sr. No.	Name of Coop. Sugar Mill and State	Name of main supplier/Suppliers
1.	2	3
NEW COOPERATIVE SUGAR MILLS. ASSISTED:		
1.	Harur CSM, Tamil Nadu	TEW
2.	Nandi SSK, Karnataka	TEW
3.	Reva Khand SKUM, Gujarat	TEW
4.	Deogiri SSK, Maharashtra	NUEC
5.	Sant Damaji SSK, Maharashtra.	TEXMACO
6.	Shankar SSK, Maharashtra	VP
7.	Sindhi Kheda SSK, Maharashtra	PHEW
8.	Majalgaon SSK, Maharashtra	KCP
9.	Agasti SSK, Maharashtra	NHEC
10.	Jai Kisan SSK, Maharashtra	ATV
11.	Copada SSK, Maharashtra	ISGEC
12.	Adinath SSK, Maharashtra	TEW

Sr. No.	Name of Coop. Sugar Mill and State	Name of main supplier/Suppliers
1.	2	3
PROPOSALS PENDING:		
1.	Jath SSK, Sangli	NHEC
2.	Jarendeshwar SSK, Satara	WIL
3.	Shri Sant Tukaram SSK, Pune	BW
4.	Godganga SSK, Pune	WIL
5.	Sangola SSK, Solapur	UIE
6.	Indra SSK, Solapur	UIE
7.	Kedareswar SSK, Ahmednagar	ISGEC
8.	Pushpa- danteshwar SSK, Bule	NHEC
9.	Sant Muktabai SSK, Jalgaon	WIL
10.	Bageshwari SSK, Jalgaon	NHEC
11.	Vikhe Patil SSK, Beed	PHEW
12.	Narsinha SSK, Parbhani	BW

Sr. No.	Name of Coop. Sugar Mill and State	Name of main supplier/Suppliers
1.	2	3
13.	Indira SSK, Parbhani	KCP
14.	Jai Ambica SSK, Nanded	KCP
15.	Jaywant Rao Patil SSK, nanded	VP
16.	Shri Bhatnagar SSK, Nanded	BW
17.	Shivajirao Nilangekar SSK, Latur	BW
18.	Balaghat SSK, Latur	WIL
19.	Amba SSK, Amaravati	ATV
20.	Kodshwar SSK, Amaravati	PHEW
21.	Shivshakti Adivasi SSK, Buldana	ATV
22.	Akola SSK, Akola	ATV
23.	Sahakar Maharishi Bapurao Deshmukh SSK, Wardha	ISGEC
24.	Pushpavathi SSK, Yavatmal	NHEC
25.	Ramganesb Gadhari SSK, Nagpur	TEW

Sr. No.	Name of Coop. Sugar Mill and State	Name of main supplier/Suppliers
1.	2	3
26.	Vidarbha SSSK, Nagpur Gujarat	TEXMACO
27.	Kaveri Vibag SKUM, Valsad	VP
28.	Valod Pradesh SKUM, Surat	VP
29.	Narmada KUSM, Bharuch	SUMAC
MODERNISATION/EXPANSION OF COOPERATIVE SUGAR MILLS ASSISTED:		
1.	Bajpur KSCM, UP	SUMAC
2.	Bagpat KSCM, U.P.	BINNY, TEXMACO, BW, KCP
3.	Mahmudabad KSCM, U.P.	VP, TEXMACO, TEW, NHEC
4.	Puranpur KSCM, U.P.	VP, TEXMACO, TEW, NHEC
5.	Anupashar KSCM, U.P.	VP, BW
6.	Tilhar KSCM, U.P. BW, APEB	BW, APEB
7.	Moma KSCM, U.P.	SUMAC, BW, TEW, WIL

Sr. No.	Name of Coop. Sugar Mill and State	Name of main supplier/Suppliers
1.	2	3
8.	Gajraula KSCM, U.P.	BW, APEB, KCP, TEW
9.	Powayar KCSM, U.P.	SUMAC, TEXMACO, WIL, KCP
10.	Nanpara KSCM, U.P.	VP, BW, NHEC
11.	GHOSI KSCM, U.P.	NHEC
12.	Sahayadri SSK, Maharashtra	TEXMACO TEW
13.	Warnanagar SSK, Maharashtra	SUMAC, NHEC, TEW
14.	Siddeshwar SSK, Maharashtra	Balancing of equipments from different suppliers
15.	Jawahar SSK, Maharashtra	WIL
16.	Bidar SSK, Karnataka	WIL
17.	Raibag SSK, Karnataka	TEW
18.	Panipat CSM, Haryana	BW, APEB
19.	Salem CSM, Tamil Nadu	BINNY, TEW KCP

Sr. No.	Name of Coop. Sugar Mill and State	Name of main supplier/Suppliers
1.	2.	3.
20.	NPKRR CSM, Tamil Nadu	BINNY
21.	Madurantakam CSM, Tamil Nadu	WIL, BINNY, TEW, NHEC
22.	Tirutanni CSM, Tamil Nadu	WIL, BINNY, NHEC, TEW
23.	Kallakurichi CSM, Tamil Nadu	BINNY
PROPOSALS PENDING:		
1.	Aska CSI, Orissa	VP
2.	Daulat SSK, Maharashtra	TEXMACO, TEW, NHEC, WIL

Indian Council of Historical Research

1991-92

Rs. 162.00 lakhs

75871. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state.

1992-93

Rs. 172.95 lakhs

(a) the grant-in-aid to the Indian Council of Historical Research during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred by the Council on its administration during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the output of the Council in terms of the authorised research and publication during the last three years, years-wise;

(d) the number of research and publication projects under implementation on 31st March, 1993; and

(e) the proposed grant-in-aid for the year 1993-94 with break up under major heads?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The grant-in-aid released to the Indian Council of Historical Research during the last three years is as follows:-

1990-91	Rs. 143.74 lakhs
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(b) According to the information furnished by the Council, the expenditure incurred on administration during the last three years is as follows:-

1990-91	Rs. 66.43 lakhs
1991-92	Rs. 83.46 lakhs
1992-93	Rs. 99.42 lakhs

(c) The Council provides grants for research projects, fellowships study-cum-travel grants, etc.

The details of research projects, publications brought out by the Council and publications brought out under Publication Subsidy programme during last three years, year-wise are given in the attached statement-I

(d) According to the information furnished by the Council, 35 publications are under print and 4 research projects under implementation.

(e) The budget estimates for 1993-94 is Rs. 174 lakhs.

A statement showing the major heads of expenditure for 1993-94 as proposed by the council is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
2	3	4	5
Research Projects	18	22	19
Fellowships	93	107	134
Study-cum-travel Grant	67	97	51
Assistance to Professional Organisation of historians	37	44	72
Publication Subsidies	53	51	55
PUBLICATIONS BROUGHT OUT BY THE COUNCIL			
Books	7	5	—
Journal (s)	1	1	—
Itihas, Vol. I (Hindi)	—	—	1
Publications under publication Subsidy Programme			
Books published	40	33	20

STATEMENT II

1993-94

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Particulars	Plan	Non-Plan
1.	Establishment charges	2.00	75.00
2.	Loans and Advances	—	—
3.	Research Projects	2.00	3.00
4.	Fellowships	12.00	25.00
5.	Contingency/Study Grants	1.00	3.50
6.	Publication Grants	0.50	3.50
7.	Assistance to historians/organisations	0.50	3.00
8.	Sources/Inscription Programme (Incl. publication)	0.50	0.50
9.	Seminars and Workshops	3.50	3.50
10.	Cultural Exchange & Foreign Scholars trips to India	—	3.50
11.	Indian Schoalrs' trips abraod	0.75	1.50
12.	Books, Microfilms, Library equipment	2.00	8.00

(Rs. in lakhs)

1993-94

S. No.	Particulars	Plan	Non-Plan
13.	Additional Library Staff	—	—
14.	Dictionary of Terms in Inscriptions	3.50	—
15.	Itihas	0.50	—
16.	Indian Historical Abstracts	1.00	—
17.	IHR Modernization Programme	0.50	—
18.	Translation Programme (Incl. Publication)	0.75	—
19.	Publication programme including special publication programme	—	4.00
20.	Infibnet	—	—
21.	Reproduction facilities	—	—
22.	Documents : Economic History of India	3.50	—
23.	Supplement to Encyclopaedia of Indian Archaeology	—	—
24.	IHR in Indian languages	0.50	—
25.	50th Anniversary of Independence Programme (Pub.)	0.50	—
Total		35.50	134.00

Railway Stations on Eastern and South Eastern Railways

7588. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount earned from sale of railway tickets by each division separately under Eastern and South Eastern Railways during 1990, 1991 and 1992;

(b) whether any developmental works have been undertaken on some of the railway stations under these zonal railways during the corresponding period; and

(c) if so, the station-wise details thereof and not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Import of Milk Powder

7589 SHRI SURAJ BHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether milk powder is imported to overcome the shortage of milk in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the countries from where milk powder is imported; and

(c) the quantity procured during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Gift commodities comprising skimmed milk powder (SMP) and butter oil (BO) are being received as gift from European Economic community (EEC) under an agreement for implementation of Operation Flood III. the commercial import of dairy commodities depends upon the circumstances from time to time.

(b) and (c). The details of the SMP imported during the last two years are as under:-

(Qty. in MT)

Year	EEC Food Aid	Commercial	Total
1991-92	-	-	-
1992-93	11994	2602	14596
Total	11994	2602	14596

11994 M.T. of SMP was received from EEC Countries while the commercial import of 2602 M.T. of SMP was of Ireland, Germany and Polish Origin and the same was supplied by dutch/French suppliers.

[English]

Train Accidents Between Ernakulam and Kayamkulam

7590. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents occurred between Ernakulam and Kayamkulam section of Southern Railway during 1992-93;

(b) the main causes of those accidents;

(c) the extent of financial loss suffered by the Railways and the number of persons killed and injured therein; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to check recurrence of such actions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) Three consequential train accidents occurred between Ernakulam and Kayamkulam section of Southern Railway during 1992-93.

(b) The main causes of these accidents were track and wagon defects.

(c) The financial loss suffered by the Southern Railway is Rs. 1, 46, 04, 200 (approx.) One passenger was killed, 3 sustained grievous injuries and 28 minor injuries.

(d) Massive programme was undertaken to improve the track condition by following inputs:-

(i) Some of the old rails were replaced with 52 kg. new paneds of wear resistant type.

(ii) deep screening was under taken at sensitive spots and desirable ballast cushion on the track achieved with the help of tie tamping machine; and

(iii) old bridge timbers were renewed at six major girder bridges.

Additional inputs by was of replacing laminated springs on Tank and CRT wagons were also undertaken.

Passenger Trains on Kottayam-Ernakulam Route

7591. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger trains between Kottayam and Ernakulam have been concerted into express trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the alternate arrangements made for short distance passengers of the route?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. KENKA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Industrial Pollution in Madhya Pradesh

7592. SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints in regard to the industrial pollution in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the units which have been served closure notices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Complaints regarding environmental pollution being caused by industrial units, namely, M/s S.N. Sunderson, M/s Agrawal Breweries, M/s Sa Jan Impact, M/s Jayant Vitamins M/s Ratlam Alcohol Plants, M/S Associated Distillery, M/s Bindal Agro Chem., M/s Oswal Proteins, M/s C.J. Gelatin, M/s Bordia Chemicals M/S CCI AND M/s vikaram Cement; have been received from Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The Central and Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board have been asked to inspect the site and provided a report on the status of compliance of the prescribed standards by units in the area.

After discussion with the State Government and the State Pollution Control Board, an

Action Plan has been formulated for 1993. The major areas of focus would be an environmental audit, pollution control in the small scale units, compliance of prescribed standards by industries particularly those discharging chemical pollutants and air pollution control in metropolitan areas and in State capitals.

The steps taken by the Government to check pollution include the following

(i) emission and effluent standards have been prescribed;

(ii) air pollution control areas have been notified;

(iii) environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries;

(iv) industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment and comply with the standards within approved time-frame.

(v) legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(d) The M.P. Pollution Control Board had issued closure notice so far to four units, namely, M/s Sunderson, M/s Bindal Agro Chem., M/s Oswal Proteins Ltd., and M/s C.J. Gelatine Products, Mandreep.

Increase in Sugar Price

7593. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of heavy release of free sale Sugar during the months of March and

April, 93, sugar price in the market is going up day by day;

(b) if so, the prevailing rates in markets in the month of January and April, 1993;

(c) the steps taken to check the rise in prices;

(d) whether due to heavy releases for export in favour of sugar industry, there will be further increase in sugar prices;

(e) if so, the quantity released for export during 1993;

(f) whether there is likely to be a substantial fall in sugar production during the current season and if so, the number of factories which stopped cane crushing during the current seasons;

(g) whether the U.P. State Sugar Corporation have requested to grant additional free sale release for payment to farmers; and

(h) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) The prices of free sale sugar in the open market have shown an increasing trend during the period January to April, 93. This increase has been primarily due to the increase in cane prices, increase in the issue price of levy sugar, etc.

(b) The range of wholesale prices of S-grade of sugar in the four principal markets of the country during January, 93 and during April, 93 (upto 27th April) are given below:-

(Rs. per Quintal)

Market	January	April, 93
Delhi	890-925	975-1020
Bombay	940-965	1040-1130
Calcutta	Not Reported	1010-1060
Madras	900-968	1028-1083

(c) The following measures have been taken to check the rise in sugar prices:-

(i) A quantity of 23.85 lakh tonnes of freesale sugar has been released during the months of January to April, 93, as compared to the release of 21.80 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last year.

(ii) Apart from ensuring sale despatch of monthly freesale quotas within the validity period by the end of the month, sugar mills have also been directed to ensure sale/despatch of 47.5% of their quota during each fortnight.

(iii) All State Governments have been requested to ensure regular and timely distribution of levy sugar through the Public Distribution System.

If the sugar prices continue to rise beyond reasonable levels despite the aforesaid measures, the Government would not hesitate to release additional quantities of freesale sugar and also enforce other regulatory measures to contain the prices of sugar in the open market.

(d) and (e). The monthly releases of freesale sugar for internal consumption are regulated in such a manner as to ensure that the release for export does not have any appreciable impact on sugar prices. A quantity of 3, 72, 950 MT of sugar was released for export during the calendar year 1993.

(f) Yes, Sir. as on 28.4.93, 232 sugar factories have stopped cane crushing during the current seasons 1992-93.

(g) and (h). Yes, Sir. A quantity of 18710.0 MT has been released as additional freesale sugar to various units of Uttar Pradesh State Sugar Corporation Ltd

Edible Oil to Gujarat

7594. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of edible oil in Gujarat;

(b) the actual quota of edible oil provided to Gujarat during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the quota of edible oil to Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):
(a) The total requirement of edible oil in Gujarat is not available. Government of Gujarat have not placed any demand for edible oils for PDS in the State during 1993 whereas the State Govt. had demanded allocation of 8, 000 MTs of edible oil per month during 1992.

(b) The quantity of edible oil allocated to and lifted by the State of Gujarat during the last three years has been:

<i>Oil Year (Nov. Oct.)</i>	<i>Allocation</i>	<i>Lifting (in MTs)</i>
1989-90	78,450	66,443
1990-91	15,800	18,797
1991-92	8m 650	9,105

Besides, the Government of Gujarat imported directly a quantity of 5,952 MTs of palmolein against the authorisation for direct import of 8,000 MTs during the year 1991-92.

(c) and (d). Considering the ample availability of indigenous edible oil at reasonable prices in the country, edible oil is, at present, neither imported nor allocated to States on regular basis.

Ration Cards to Bangladesh Infiltrators

7595. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to change the procedure for issue of ration-card to prevent foreign nationals specially Bangladeshi infiltrators in getting such cards easily; and

(b) if not the details of the measures taken/proposed to prevent illegal migrants from Bangladesh to get ration cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) and (b). The operational responsibility for implementing the public Distribution System (PDS) in the country is with the State Governments/UT Administrations. Decisions regarding opening of fair price shops, eligibility criteria, issue of ration cards to bona fide consumers and laying down procedures and regulatory measures done by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Bona fide residents of a State are generally issued ration cards for getting access to PDS.

Rail Link between North Bengal and Calcutta

7596 SHRI JTIENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposals to connect North Bengal with Calcutta

through Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) There is no transit agreement with Bangladesh to provide for such connection.

[Translation]

Complaints Against Ticket Checkers

7597 SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received complaints in January/February, 1991 against several ticket checkers and conductors of Allahabad Junction in Northern Railway regarding creating alleged terror and arbitrary behaviour; and

(b) if so the action taken so far in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No such complaint seems to have been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Late Running of Jhelum Express

7598. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of constant late running of 4677 Down Jhelum Express on every Monday from Pune;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Rake of the trains is being used to run Ahimsa Express between Pune and Ahmaedabad on every Sunday and the rake comes back on Tuesday. Jhelum Express arriving Pune on every Monday at 15.20 hrs. works back link train at 17.45 hrs. This margin previously used to be about 5 hours but got reduced to 2 hours due to change in the schedule of Jhelum Express. A decision has already been taken to delink the two rakes on receipt of new Coaches from production units.

[English]

Rail Links in Indian Enclaves

7599. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh territory;

(b) the names of Enclaves where rail-links have been provided as on December, 1992;

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend more rail-links for some more Indian Enclaves where the rail-links have not been provided till date;

(d) if so, the details of such facilities and names of Enclaves where these are likely to be provided; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Supply of Empty Gunny Bags to U.P.

7600. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any problem in getting the supply of empty gunny bags by the Government of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the empty bags are not being supplied on local basis; and

(c) if not, the manner in which the above problem is being tackled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government of U.P. is facing some problem in arranging supply of empty gunny bags for procurement of wheat during 1993-94 Rabi Marketing Season basically on account of late placement of incentives by them on DGS&D, Calcutta. The State Government placed indent for 42,100 bales on 6th Feb '93 and 21,000 bales on 20th March, 1993.

(b) and (c). To meet the emergent situation, the State Government with the approval of the Government of India, placed orders for 21,000 bales of B. T. will empty gunny bags from open market on 12th April, 93. The Government of India also have helped the State Government to tackle this problem by allowing them to move the empty gunny bags either any rail or by road as per their convenience, giving loans of empty gunny bags through FCI and by also providing them funds for purchases.

Hailstorms and Heavy Rains in Bihar

7601. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several areas of Bihar have suffered huge loss of lives and damage to crops and property due to the hailstorms and heavy rains occurring the March, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have under-

taken relief work in the villages affected by the hailstorms and heavy rains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Ration Card in South Delhi

7602. SHRI SOMJI BHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to issue new ration cards in Delhi especially in Southern Zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of ration cards registered with each office in South Delhi as on December 31, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). The ration cards in the Union Territory of Delhi were due for renewal in 1992. Delhi Administration has reported that these are being renewed for another period of 2 years by pasting slips for the year 1993 and 1994 on the food cards.

(c) The number of ration card registered with different circle offices in South Delhi as on 31.12.92 is as under

<i>Circle No.</i>	<i>No. of Card registered</i>
29	37611
30	50067
31	43404
32	57165
33	49777
35	43717
36	67815
37	26771
38	37682
39	37682
59	52986
60	38772
61	30726

Benefits of Public Distribution System

7604. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to adopt the recommendation of the Population Committee Report regarding the exclusion of persons having more than two children from the benefits of Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) There is no such proposal under considered.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Licenses for Catering Units

7605. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide licences of catering units at railway stations only to the contractors; and

(b) if so, the proposed division of jurisdiction of catering arrangements between contractors and the departmental catering units at those railway stations where departmental catering units are already functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) As per new catering policy all new catering/vending license shall be awarded to reputed and professional caterers. Besides, it has also been decided to continue the existing departmental catering units.

(b) These parameters are duly laid down in the existing policy frame-work.

Services in Trains

7606. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

DR. KURPASINDHU BHOI:

SHRI MOAN RAWALE:

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR

RAWAT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains in which improved services to passengers including drinking water and better illumination have been provided till date, Zone-wise;

(b) the details of the facilities provided in those trains; and

(c) the details of other trains where such facilities are proposed to be provided during the current year Zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) and (b). It is the endeavor of Indian Railways to provide quality service on all trains. However, repant theft/vandalism takes a heavy toll of passenger amenity fittings on coaches and sometimes it becomes difficult to replace them immediately 40 number of prestigious trains have been identified for special monitoring under the "ZERO MISSING AMENITY FITTINGS" Scheme and these are listed in the attached Statement. As regards drinking water, the same is made available in the Mail/Express trains by providing Jerry cans, water containers and flasks which are replenished enroute.

Passenger amenity fittings being ensured include Mirrors, wash-basins Push Cocks, Light fittings, fans, window shutters, upholstery etc. Coaches with 110 Volt Train lighting system are being increasingly used in the BG trains for better illumination.

(c) Depending upon the availability of funds more trains will be brought under the scheme.

STATEMENT

Central Railway

1. 2123/2124 Up Bombay Pune Deccan Queen.
2. 2113/2114 Up Bombay Pune Indrayani Express.
3. 2103Dn/2104 Up Kurla Bangalore Express.
4. 1037Dn/1038 Up Bombay VT Ferozepur Punjab Mail.
5. 2133/2134 Up Bombay VT Lucknow Pushpak Express.
6. 1081/1082 Up Bombay VT Cape Jayanti Janta Express
7. 1411Dn/1450 Up Jabalpur Nizamuddin Mahakoshal Express

Eastern Railway

8. 2301/2302 Rajdhani Express - Howrah - New Delhi.
9. 2381, 2303, 2382/2304 A.C. Express.
10. 2311/2312 Kalka Mail.
11. 3005/3006 Amritsar Mail
12. 3142/3143 SDAH New Jalpaiguri Darjeeling.

Northern Railway

13. 2001/2002 Shatabdi Express New Delhi - Bhopal.
14. 2003/2004 Shatabdi Express New Delhi - Lucknow.
15. 2005/2006 Shatabdi Express New Delhi - Kalka
16. 2417/2418 Prayag Raj Express.
17. 4033/4034 Jammu Mail
18. 4067/4068 Malwa Express
19. 4229/4230 Lucknow Mail

N.E. Railway

20. 2553/2554 Vaishali Express

N.F. Railway

21. 2521/2522 North-East Express.
22. 5660/5659 Kamrup Express.

Southern Railway

23. 2621/2622 Tamil Nadu Express
-

24. 2625/2326 Kerala Express
25. 2627/2628 Karnataka Express
26. 2723/2724 A.P. Express
27. 7033/7054 Hyderabad Madras Express
28. 7007/7008 Godavari Express
29. 7201/7202 Golconda Express
30. 7423/7424 Narayanadri Express
31. 7551/7552 Ajanta Express

S.C. Railway

32. 8011/8012 Ispat Express
33. 8013/8014 Steel Express
34. 2859/2842 Goromandal Express
35. 2841/2842 Goromandal Express
36. 8001/8002 Howrah Bombay Mail via Nagpur.

S.E. Railway

Western Railway

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 37. | 9001/9002 Gujarat Mail |
| 38. | 2951/2952 New Delhi - Bombay Rajdhani Express |
| 39. | 2905/2906 Ashram Express |
| 40. | 2901/2902 Pink City Express |

[English]

Transportation of Coal

7607. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to supply coal to the Central power stations;

(b) if so, whether the supply will be made on a cash and carry basis, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 'Cash & Carry' System for supply of coal is being followed by Coal India Ltd. Railways, however, book coal for transport to all consumers including Central Thermal Power Stations, either on 'Prepaid' or on 'To Pay' basis. Where coal is booked 'To pay', a surcharge of 10% of the freight, in addition to the normal freight, is levied.

(c) Ministry of Coal has introduced 'Cash & Carry' System with effect from 1.10.1991 on account of the difficult funds position of the coal companies due to huge accumulated arrears towards the Thermal Power Stations.

Award of Contracts

7608. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contracts awarded by the Railways without calling for quotations/tenders during 1992 and 1993 so far;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enquire into the non-calling for tenders; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Eastern Railway Projects

7609. SHRI ANAN RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the profit or loss incurred by Eastern Railway during the last three years;

(b) whether this zone had made any achievements regarding track renewal and electrification and other developmental work during 1992-93;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the development work likely to be undertaken by the Eastern Railway during 1993-94 and the amount proposed to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) The loss made by Eastern Railway during the last three years is as under:-

1989-90	Rs. 173,11,37,087
1990-91	Rs. 153,97,88,754
1991-92	Rs. 184,92,52,573

(b) to (d). A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

(b) and (c). Details achievements made by Eastern Railway during the year 1992-93 are given below:-

Track Renewal

(i) Track Renewal 1992-93 Eastern Rail-

way achieved a progress of 386 Kms (CTR units Sannagar patratus section.
) as against the target of 380 Kms. in Track
Renewal.

(iii) *Developmental Works*

(ii) *Electrification of Tracks*

44 Routes Kilometers energised on The following new lines doubling sections
were completed during 1992-93

<i>I New Lines</i>	<i>Kms.</i>	<i>Opened on</i>
Lakshmi - antapur	10.00	19.10.1992
<i>II Doublings</i>		
(1) Jamirghata to Gour Malda	5.73	10.03.1993
(2) Japla-Hydernagar	7.02	4.02.1993
(3) Hydernagar-Kosiara	6.07	5.09.1992
(4) Kosiara-Muhammadganj	6.34	5.03.1993
(5) Barasat-duttapurkur	7.67	22.03.1993
(6) Bhagalpur-Nathanagar	36.66	28.07.1992
Total Kms.	36.66	

(a) the development works costing Rs. 50 lakhs and above likely to be undertaken by the Eastern Railway during 1993-94 and the amount proposed to be spent thereon are given below:-

<i>S.N. Name of Work</i>	<i>Outlay for 1993-94 (Rs. in crores)</i>
1. Jhaptardal -Guskara Doubling	2.00
2. Dankuni-Development into a nodal freight terminal (Phase I)	1.00
3. Andal Inter Yard extension of lines	0.60
4. Mughalsarai Up Yard -Goods by-pass line	0.05
5. Mughalarai Down Yard BOX 'N' Wing for handling BOX 'N' rakes.	1.10
6. Calcutta additional disk at Passenger Reservation Computer Centre	2.50

S.N. Name of Work	Outlay for 1993-94 (Rs. in crores)	
7. Howrah new Electric Loco Shed..	0.06	
8. Howrah & Bandel Car Sheds- augmentation of amaintenance facilities for 10 oach EMU rakes.	0.82	
9. Route Kms. expected to be energised in sections:		
(i) Sonnagar-Patrau 196 Rkms.	35.00	
(ii) Sitarampur-Jhajha 72 Rkms. (as a part of sitarampur-Mughalsari section)	28.00	

Consutrction of Godowns by Food Corporation of India

7610. PROF. UMMA REDDY
VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food-grains procured but
the Food Corporation of India were higherto
stoed in C.W.C.'s godowns;

(b) whether the Food Corproation of India
his started constructing its own godowarns
inerecent years; and

(c) the reasons for initiating godown con-
struction programme by the Corporation of In-
dia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, As on 31.3.3.1993, the Food
Coporation of 120/89. lakh tonnes of Storage
coprity owned/ constructed by them.

(c) Apart from having more scientific stor-
age facilities of its own, the Food corporation of
India makes addition to its storge capacity to
reduce dependence on hired godowns.

Bellary-Mangalore Railway line

7611. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the
Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been con-
ducted for railway link between Railway and
Manglaore;

(b) if so, the estmied cost of consturction of
this railway line;

(c) whether the projeict has been approved
and work stated thereon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) to (d). Mangalore-Challekers and Rayadurg
-Bellary were already connected by MG line.
Work of conversion of Bellary-Rayadurg BG
has been completed. Work of Rayadurg-
Challakere nesw line and conversion of
Chellakere-Chikjajur and chikjajur-Arsikere are
targetted for compeltion during 1993-94. Work of
conversion of Arisherres-Mangalore has been
ncluded in the Action Plan of the Eighth Five
Year Plan.

Indian Dairy Corporation

7612. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any evaluation of the working of Indian Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the upgradation of the said Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) Under Section 5 of the National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987 (37 of 1987), the Indian Dairy Corporation stands dissolved by virtue of the provisions of the said Act. All the undertakings of the erstwhile Indian Dairy Corporation stand transferred to and vest in the National Dairy Development Board.

Insurance coverage to Fishermen

7613. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the insurance coverage extended to the fishermen during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the Central assistance provided for this purpose during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Welfare of Fishermen" free insurance cover is provided to active fishermen for Rs. 21,000 against death or permanent disability and Rs. 10,500/- for partial disability. Statues details of fishermen insured and the Central assistance provided during the last three years in given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of fishermen insured	Funds released (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of fisher- men insured	Funds rele- ased (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of fishermen insured
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.00	111111	5.00	11111	-	-
2.	Bihar	43	333333	2.41	30000	1.38	28000
3.	Gujarat	1.35	30000	1.63	30000	10	1900
4.	Himachal Pradesh	02	1727	10	1828	10	1900
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	15	4000	-	-
6.	Karnataka	2.70	60000	3.25	60000	-	-
7.	Kerala	6.45	161267	8.74	161267	8.74	161267
8.	Maharashtra	81	229066	2.38	40000	2.00	45000
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1.00	29914	2.38	40000	2.00	45000
10.	Manipur	09	2024	10	2222	-	-

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of fishermen insured	Funds released (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of fisher- men insured	Funds rele- ased (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of fishermen insured
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
11.	Orissa	2.70	60000	3.60	66400	4.3	80000
12.	Tamil Nadu	7.50	166692	9.02	166312	10.93	201710
13.	Tripura	45	10000	1.00	20000	-	-
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1.22	27000	1.52	28000	1.31	29000
15.	West Bengal	.84	100000	4.85	89485	6.00	110700
16.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	.09	1000	.94	2000	.27	2500
17.	Lakshadweep	.03	291	.03	290	.03	290
18.	Pondicherry	1.29	14300	1.62	125000	1.77	16000
19.	Goa	-	-	.25	3000	-	-
Total:		31.97	837725	49.15	900709	36.87	67367

[Translation]

Union Government for fighting these calamities, State-wise?

Damage to Crops

7614. DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of the crops damaged as a result of droughts, floods and other natural calamities during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(b) the amount of grants provided by the

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Information is being collected.

(b) State-wise details of Central share of Calamity relief Fund (CRF) released during 1992-93 are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

S.No.	State	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49.2100
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.5000
3.	Assam	22.5000
4.	Bihar	39.3750*
5.	Goa	0.7500
6.	Gujarat	63.7500
7.	Haryana	12.7500
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13.5000
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	13.5000*
10.	Karnataka	30.3750*
11.	Kerala	34.8750*
12.	Madhya	27.7500
13.	Maharashtra	33.0000

S.No.	State	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
14.	Manipur	0.7500
15.	Meghalaya	1.5000
16.	Mizoram	0.7500
17.	Nagaland	0.7500
18.	Orissa	29.7800
19.	Punjab	21.0000
20.	Rajasthan	93.0000
21.	Sikkim	2.2500
22.	Tamil Nadu	43.8750*
23.	Tripura	2.2500
24.	Uttar Pradesh	122.5800*
25.	West Bengal	30.0000
Total:		691.3200

* Includes advance release made from CPF

Relief to Farmers of Madhya Pradesh

7615. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the assistance sought by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing relief to the farmers affected by recent hailstorms, has been released;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any memorandum has received from the Members of Parliament regarding inadequate amount of assistance and amendment in the norms of relief or compensation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (e) government of Madhya Pradesh has sought assistance of Rs. 30.00 crores for relief operations in the areas affected by hailstorm during the months of February and March, 1993.

Under the existing scheme for financing the relief expenditure, State Governments are required to initiate necessary relief operations in the areas affected by natural calamities out of the corpus of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). A State Level Committee headed by chief secretary is fully empowered to decide on all matters relating to management of natural disasters including norms of assistance.

The request of the State Government has been considered in the light of existing scheme for financing the relief expenditure. Government of India has released its three quarterly install-

ments of CRF amounting to Rs. 20.81 crores for the year 1993-94 in the month of April, 1993 which were due to be released on 1st April, 1st July and 1st October, 1993 to Government of Madhya Pradesh, augment the State's resources for undertaking relief measures in the areas affected by natural calamities including hailstorms.

While individual communications have been received from some honourable M. Ps for enhancing the assistance to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in the wake of hailstorms, no memo the members of Parliament has been received.

Licences to Porters in Delhi

7616. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons are still working as coolies at New Delhi and Delhi railway stations without any valid licence;

(b) if so, the number thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue licences to such persons; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Weapons to personnel of Forest Departments

7617. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched

any scheme to provide modern weapons to the personnel of the Forest Departments to deal with the persons/gangs responsible for indiscriminate felling of trees and illegal hunting in the forests:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount provided by the Government under this scheme during each of the last three years and for 1993-94, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Scheme 'Development of Infrastructure for Protection of Forests Against Biotic Interference' provides financial assistance to State & Union Territories on 50:50 sharing

basis for purchase of Arms and ammunitions, vehicles, wireless sets, creation of fire lines, erection of watch towers and fencing etc.

The scheme 'Control of Poaching and Illegal Trade in Wildlife' given financial assistance to states and Union Territories on 50.50. sharing basis for creation of mobile squads setting up wireless network, cost of protection forces and payment to informers.

(c) Government of India has provided financial assistance to States/UT's during last three years as per details given in the attached statement -I and II.

As per decision of national Development Council, These scheme have been transferred to State Plan Sector, hence no assistance is provided by this Ministry for the year 1993-94.

STATEMENT-I

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount released in				
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93		
1.	2	3	4	5		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	5.00	5.00		
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2.90	12.70	12.70		
3.	Assam	9.655	15.40	15.40		
4.	Bihar	-	12.3984	12.40		
5.	Gujarat	7.90	12.50	12.50		
6.	Goa	1.59	3.894	3.90		
7.	Haryana	3.48	2.50	2.50		
8.	Karnataka	52.285	17.60	17.60		
9.	Kerala	-	10.00	10.00		
10.	Madhya Pradesh	11.31	22.82	22.82		

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount released in			
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
1.	2	3	4	5	
11.	Manipur	-	5.3775	5.40	
12.	Meghalaya	-	1.00	1.00	
13.	Mizoram	5.875	10.79	10.80	
14.	Orissa	10.00	48.00	48.00	
15.	Punjab	12.50	15.00	15.00	
16.	Rajasthan	-	3.50	3.50	
17.	Sikkim	-	4.98375	4.95	
18.	Tamil Nadu	40.00	7.92	7.92	
19.	Tripura	3.35	11.43	11.43	
20.	Uttar Pradesh	18.42	34.78	34.78	
21.	West Bengal	-	5.747	5.75	

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount released in			
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
1.	2	3	4	5	
22.	J & K	-	13.53	13.53	
23.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	-	-	4.12	
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.25	-	6.25	
25.	Nagaland	-	-	8.00	

STATEMENT-II

Sl. No.	States/UTS	(Rs. in lakhs)			
		Amount released in			
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.26	-	1.10	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	0.55	0.55	
3.	Assam	1.78	3.20	3.20	
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	
5.	Goa	0.10	-	1.00	
6.	Gujarat	-	-	-	
7.	Haryana	1.00	1.10	1.10	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	0.75	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	3.08	

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTS	Amount released in			
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
1	2	3.	4	5	
10.	Karnataka	5.00	7.89	7.89	
11.	Kerala	1.433	-	1.43	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	2.90	
13.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	
14.	Manipur	0.60	2.10	2.10	
15.	Meghalaya	0.524	-	0.53	
16.	Mizoram	-	-	-	
17.	Nagaland	1.43	-	1.43	
18.	Orissa	1.23	8.75	8.75	
19.	Punjab	0.50	2.94	2.94	
20.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTS	Amount released in			
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
1	2	3	4	5	
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	
22.	Tamil Nadu	2.85	10.66		
23.	Tripura	-	0.35	0.35	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	
25.	West Bengal	1.875	2.55	2.55	
Total:		18.582	50.09	52.31	

[English]

Assamese Books Translated in Hindi

7618. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Assamese books with their authors translated into Hindi and published by the national Book Trust of India during the last two years ending December 1992;

(b) the names of Hindi and other regional language books translated into Assamese and published by N.B.T of India during the above period; and

(c) the details of other projects under execution at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The names of Assamese books published by the National Book Trust in Hindi during 1991 and 1992 are given below:

1. Surajmukher Sapna by Syed Abdul Malik
2. Kathanibari Ghat by Mahim Bora
3. Kapil Paria Sadhu by navkant Barua

(b) A list of books from Hindi and other regional languages, published by the trust in Assamese during 1991 and 1992 is given below:

BANGAL:

1. Ichhamati by Vibhuti Bhushan Bandyopadhyay

HINDI:

2. A journey to Gomukh by Sheila Sharma
3. Awara masiha by Vishnu Prabhakar

KANNADA:

4. Nisarga by Miriji Annarao

PUNJABI

5. Adh Chandani Raat by Gurdial Singh

URDU

6. Begmat Ke Ansu by Khwaja hasan Nizami

(c) The details of other projects under execution at present are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

ASSAMESE TITLES TAKEN UP FOR TRANSLATION INTO HINDI

A. *Titles under preparation/awaiting copyright clearance:*

1. Selections from the writings of Bez Barua
2. Rangmilliar Hanhi by Rong Bong Terang
3. Prithvir Hani by Lummer Dai
4. Anthology of Contemporary Assamese Prose Comp. Ranjit Dev Goswami
5. Seuji Patar Khaini by Rasana Barua
6. Anthology of Sarat Chandra Goswami's Short Stories
7. Panipat by Atul Hazarika

B. *Titles assigned for translation:*

1. Akash by Dr. Babendranath Saika

C. *Titles translated into Hindi, being copy-edited:*

1. Anthology of Assamese Short Stories Comp. P.D. Goswami
2. Anthology of Assamese One Act Plays Comp. P.D. Goswami

TITLES FROM HINDI AND OTHER LANGUAGES TAKEN UP FOR TRANSLATION INTO
ASSAMESE

A. Titles assigned for translation:

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| 1. | Ashapura Devi's Short Stories | Bangla |
| 2. | Bankim Chandra's Essays | Bangla |
| 3. | Atma Prakash by Sunil Gangopadhyaya | Bangla |
| 4. | Ishwanitolar Rupokatha by Shyamal Gangopadhyay | Bangla |
| 5. | Alik Manush by Syed Mustafa Siraj | Bangla |
| 6. | Ganga Maiya by Bhairavaprasad Gupta | Hindi |
| 7. | Sara Akash by Rajendra Yadav | Hindi |
| 8. | Nirala Ki Sahitya Sadhana by Rambilas Sharma | Hindi |
| 9. | Mitro Marjani by Krishna Sobti | Hindi |
| 10. | Anthology of Kannada Short Stories (Comp) G.H. Naik | Kannada |
| 11. | Ratha Chakra by S.N. Pendse | Marathi |
| 12. | Ranangan by Vishram Bedekar | Marathi |

B. Titles translated into Assamese, being copy-edited:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Billeswar Bakriha by Nirala | Hindi |
| 2. Kazinda Kalam by K.P. Keseva Menon | Malayalam |
| 3. Kothe Kharak Singh by Ram Sarup Ankhi | Punjabi |
| 4. Naa Radha Na Rukmani by Amrita Prita | Punjabi |

C. Titles translated into Assamese, ready for composing and printing:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Phaniswar Nath Renu's Short Stories | Hindi |
| 2. Sweeya Chritra Sangrahumu Veerasalingamu Abridged by K. Kutumba Rao | Telugu |

Palmoline oil to Kerala.*[Translation]*

7619. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the request of the Government of Kerala for allotment of Palmoline Oil for issuing through the public Distribution System has been received; and

(b) if so, whether the quantity requested therefor has been supplied; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) to (c) In November, 1992 Govt. of Kerala had placed demand of edible oils for the PDS at the level of 10,000 MTs. per month. The availability of indigenous oils in the country is adequate and their prices are reasonable. Keeping this position in view, the import of edible oil is at present not being done and consequently no regular allocation of edible oil to the States is made. However, with the residual stock of oil with STC, a total quantity of 3800 MTs of Palmolein has been allocated to Kerala during the period from November, 92 till date. Besides, Govt. of Kerala has also been permitted to lift 3400 MTs of palmolein lying unused with the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Constitution of Tri-level Reform Agencies

7620. MOHAMMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the work carried out during the last year in regard to the constitution of Tri-level Reform Agencies at the District, State and national level to strengthen the consumer protection, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the work which have been completed in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) and (b) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 envisages a three tier redressal agencies at national, state and district level to redress the consumer grievances relating to defective goods, deficient services, unfair trade practices etc. The national Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (National Commission) has started functioning. Thirty Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (State Commissions) and 447 Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums (District Forums) are also functioning at the State and District levels. The Statewise position is enclosed in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

	State/UT	Position of State commission	Position of District Forums
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Functioning	23 Functioning Approval given for one DF
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Functioning	11 Functioning
3.	Assam	Functioning	23 Functioning
4.	Gujarat	Functioning	20 Functioning
5.	Bihar	Functioning	39 Functioning
6.	Goa	Functioning	2 Functioning
7.	Haryana	Functioning	16 Functioning
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Functioning	12 Functioning
9.	Karnataka	Functioning	20 Functioning
10.	Kerala	Functioning	14 Functioning
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Functioning	45 Functioning
12.	Maharashtra	Functioning	31 Functioning
13.	Manipur	Functioning	8 Functioning

	State/UT	Position of State commission	Position of District Forums
14.	Meghalaya	Notified	5 Notified
15.	Mizoram	Functioning	8 Functioning
16.	Nagaland	Functioning	7 Functioning
17.	Orissa	Functioning	13 Functioning
18.	Punjab	Functioning	12 Functioning Approval given for D.F.
19.	Rajasthan	Functioning	30 Functioning
20.	Sikkim	Functioning	4 Functioning
21.	Tamil Nadu	Functioning	21 Functioning
22.	Tripura	Functioning	3 Functioning
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Functioning	63 Functioning
24.	West Bengal	Functioning	17 Functioning
25.	A&N Islad	Functioning	2 Functioning
26.	Chandigarh	Functioning	1 Functioning

	State/UT	Position of State commission	Position of District Forums
27.	D&N Haveli	Functioning	1 Functioning
28.	Delhi	Functioning	1 Functioning
29.	Daman & Diu	Functioning	2 Functioning
30.	Lakshadweep	Functioning	2 Functioning
31.	Pondichery	Functioning	1 Functioning

Veterinary Hospitals

SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:

7621. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facility of veterinary hospital is available in each of the Gram panchayats in Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if not, the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided for benefit of the rural people in the above mentioned States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Summer Specials

7622. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether summer specials are proposed to be run from various places during the current summer vacations; and

(b) if so, the details of trains proposed to be introduced from various zones, Zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 1000 Special trains on as many as 25 routes are being run during the current Summer season.

[Translation]

"Hot Mix Plants in Delhi"

7623. SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(FEROZEPUR):

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Hot Mix Sanyantra Abhi Bhi, Dharalle Se Chal Rahe hain" appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' dated April 3, 1993;

(b) whether certain hot mix plants are still operating in the Capital without following the directions of CPCB issued to them;

(c) if so, the details there; and

(d) the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government against such plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board had issued directions to the following 12 Hot Mix Plants in June, 1990 that if they failed to install pollution control equipment by December, 1990, the electricity shall be disconnected by the Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking (DESU):

1. M/s. B.S. Construction Company, Rangpuri Pahar, Delhi.
2. M/s. R.K. Goel Abhey Kumar Jain, Rangpuri Pahar, Delhi.
3. M/s Capital Construction Company, Rangpuri Pahar, Delhi.
4. M/s Rak Construction Co., Rangpuri Pahar, Delhi.
5. M/s Saryam Construction Co., Rangpuri Pahar, Delhi.
6. M/s Nagia & Co., Surajkund Road, Lal Kuan, Delhi.

7. M/s Madan Construction Co., Suraj Kund Road, Lal Kuan, Delhi.
8. M/s NDMC Hot Mix Plant, Purana Quilla, Delhi.
9. M/s CPWD Hot Mix Plant No. 1, Majnu Ka Tila, Delhi.
10. M/s CPWD Hot Mix plant No. 2 Purana Quilla, Delhi.
11. M/s PWD Hot Mix Plant, S.A. Road, Okhla, Delhi.
12. M/s PWD Hot Mix Plant, G. T. Kamal Road, Samaipur, Delhi.

The above units did not install pollution control equipment.

(d) Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) to which powers in this regard had been delegated, issued reminders to DESU dated 3.9.1992, 30.10.1992 and 30.12.1992 for disconnection of electricity. Desu have disconnected power for 2 hot mix plants at Okhla and Gt Kamal Road of PWD of Delhi Administration in the month of February, 1993. DPCC is pursuing the matter regularly with the DESU for disconnection of Electricity of the remaining 10 hot mix plants.

[English]

Electrification of Howrah-Madras Section

7624. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a scheme to electrify the entire East Coast line between Howrah and Madras;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked therefor;

(c) the progress made in the electrification

of that stretch; and

(d) the year by which the entire route is likely to be electrified;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) yes Sir, except for Kharagpur-Waltair section.

(b) and (c) Howrah-Kharagpur section from Howrah end and madras Vijayawada section from Madras end of the Howrah-Madras East Coast line, are already electrified. Further electrification of Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam section has also been sanctioned and preliminary electrification works are in progress. This work is estimated to cost Rs. 210.08 crores.

(d) By September, 1998 except for Kharagpur-Waltair section.

[Translation]

Opening of Godowns in Rajasthan

7625. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns proposed to be set up in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five Year plan;

(b) the names of places selected for this purpose;

(c) whether the government propose to set up some godowns in Churu district also; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to increase the number of godowns in this district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) In Rajasthan Fci and Cwc have tentatively proposed to construct additional storage capacity of 57910 tonnes and 35,000 tonnes, respectively, during the Eighth Five year Plan. The following godowns, however, were con-

structed by Food Corporation of India during 1992-93 which were spill over of the 7th plan.

i)	Baran	2500	MT
ii)	Barmer	5000	MT
iii)	Chandaria	5000	MT
iv)	Hanumangarh	5000	MT
v)	Keshorapatan	6670	MT
	(Revenue Distt. Bundi)		
vi)	Srivijayanagar	3740	MT
Total:		27910	MT

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Additional capacity in particular locations are constructed depending on the requirements subject to availability of fund, land, road/rail facilities etc. and socio-economic viability. As on 31.1.93, Food Corporation of India has a total capacity of 8.27 lakh MT. in Rajasthan with a low level of utilisation of 32 per cent.

[English]

Fair Price Shops in pauni Garhwal

7626. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fair Price Shops opened in Pauni Garhwal and Chamoli since January 1, 1993;

(b) whether tea, iodised salt, pulses and soaps are also sold through the Fair price Shops; and

(c) if so, the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Food Items distributed through Public Distribution System

7627. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDLWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of wheat, rice, atta and sugar being distributed through the Fair Price Shops in the Capital Particularly in the walled city area remain stale and not fit for human consumption; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gauge Conversion of Mysore-Hassan Section

7628. SHRI H.D.DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any representation from the general public and public representatives to concert the metre gauge railway line from Mysore to Hassan on Southern Railway into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to complete this gauge conversion project during Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C.LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(c) Representation in this connection has been received from Shri M.P. sadashivaiah, superintending Engineer, Central Mechanical Organisation Circle, Dhanwad forwarded by Shri H.D. Devegowda, M.P. The Railway have at present no plans for converting this line.

UGC Grants to Universities

7629. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:
SHRI R. DHANUSKODI
ATHITHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the teaching and research activities have been adversely affected in North Bengal University and in Universities of Southern States due to inadequate grants provided to them by UGC during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons for providing such inadequate grants;

(c) whether the government propose to increase the grants there for; and:

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) The maintenance grants to the State Universities, which are established by Acts of State Legislatures, are provided by the respective State Governments. UGC provides only development grants to the eligible state Universities, in accordance with the prescribed norms, and that too only for a part of their requirements. It is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government to provide reasonable level of Plan and Non-Plan grants to the Universities established by them.

According to the information furnished by UGC, paucity of funds may affect some developmental activities of the institutions, but the basic facilities are not likely to be affected.

Foodgrains production Programms

7630. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of Integrated programme of Rice Development and special, foodgrains production programme during the seventh Five Year plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some special schemes have been included in the above mentioned programmes during Eighth Five Year plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have launched any special scheme for Agricultural develop-

ment in Goa; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The performance of Rice Development Programme has been reviewed periodically by the Government of India. The implementation of special Rice Production programme (SRPP) and Special Foodgrains Production programme-Rice (SEPP- Rice) during the Seventh Five year Plan has created an awareness among the farmers, for the adoption of improved rice production technology and has helped in increasing the production of rice in the country. The production of rice has increased from 60.10 million tonnes in 1983-84 to 73.57 million tonnes in 1989-90.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

Crop Rotation

7631. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to make crop rotation system popular among farmers with a view to enable them to increase their yield; and

(b) the achievements made in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The Extension Agencies of the Department of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities develop and promote improved crop rotations specific for different agro-climatic conditions through field demonstrations and training programmes. A large number of cereals-legumes and other suitable crop rotations are being followed by the farmers. Data on Changes in crop rotation are not being maintained.

[Translation]

Grants Aid to Voluntary Organisation ins Uttar Pradesh

7632. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from voluntary cultural organisations of Uttar Pradesh for financial assistance during such of the last three years;

(b) the nature of proposals approved or are under consideration; and

(c) the amount sanctioned so far and the amount actually paid during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Production of Potato Onion and Banana in Maharashtra

7633. SHRIMANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of potatoes, onions and bananas in Maharashtra during 1992-93; and

(b) the amount of financial assistance pro-

vided to maharashtra to augment the production of potatoes, onions and bananas during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Production estimates of potatoes, onions and bananas during 1992-93 in Maharashtra have not been released so far.

(b) Financial assistance to Maharashtra during 1992-93 for production was:

(i) Rs. 14.50 lakh was provided under Central Sector Scheme on production of fruits and vegetables-Augmenting vegetable seed production which include onion also.

(ii) Rs 2.00 lakh was provided for rejuvenation of banana under Central Sector Scheme on development of tropical and air zone fruits.

(iii) Central Sector Scheme for promoting cultivation of root and tuber crops including potato with an outlay of Rs. 2.50 crores has been approved for imple-

mentation during VIII plan period.

Production of Film on Agriculture

7634. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA): Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invited some private film producing companies to make film on agricultural subjects which were hitherto being produced by film Division;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the total number of films produced by private film makers and expenditure involved thereon during 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of availability of adequate expertise in the market.

(c):	1.	Vidco films got produced/ under production through Private Producers	1991-92 15	1992-93 4
	2.	Expenditure incurred	13.18 lakhs	18.98 lakhs

Import of Waste from USA

7635. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import waste from USA for generation of power on project Hazel near Kochi;

(b) the norms to decide the kind of waste to be imported;

(c) whether there is possibility of environmental hazard as a result of the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in

this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (e) On environmental consideration, Government do not support any proposal to import wastes for generation of power.

National Seeds Project

7636. SHRI R. DHANUSKODIATHATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World bank assisted the national Seeds Project Phase-II;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The World Bank assisted National Seeds Project, Phase-II started in 1978 and ended in December, 1985.

(b) Five States namely Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa, Rajasthan and U.P. were covered under NSP-II. The project cost was Rs.38.91 crores with the World bank assistance of US \$ 16 million.

(c) Details and the progress made under NSP-II are given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

1.	Date of Commencement of the Project	:	December 1978														
2.	Date of Completion of the Project	:	December 1985														
3.	Project States	:	Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa, Rajasthan & U.P.														
4.	Project Cost	:	Rs. 38.91 crore														
5.	World Bank assistance	:	US\$ 16 Million														
6.	Facilities created under the Project	:	/														
S. No.	Component	Bihar		Karnataka		Orissa		Rajasthan		U.P.		SFCL		ICAR		Total	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
1.	Certified Seed Processing Plans	2	11,000	2	8000	2	6200	3	23,000	2	15,000	-	-	-	-	11	63,700
2.	Seed Stores	-	-	5	2500	-	-	6	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	5,000
3.	Fdn. Seed Processing Plants	-	-	2	600	-	-	2	1,200	2	2,800	-	-	-	-	6	4,600
4.	Large Farm Dev. 1	-	451	3	195	1	250	2	600	2	877	1	4000	-	-	10	6,373
5.	Strengthening of Breeder seed production Units	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	-

S. No.	Component	Bihar		Karnataka		Orissa		Rajasthan		U.P.		SFCI		ICAR		Total	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
6.	Strengthening of seed Technology Res. Units	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
7.	Strengthening of Seed Certification Agencies	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
8.	Seed Testing Lab	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
9.	Consultancies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
10.	Overseas Training	3	-	3	-	3	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	18	-

A = Number, B = Annual Capacity for Seed Processing, Area in Ha. Seed Storage in Metric Tonnes.

Review Committees on Text Books

7637. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set Review Committees/Boards to review the quality of text books;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have issued any directions to the State Governments in that regard; and

(d) if so, the details of the guidelines issued regarding the composition, terms and functions of the committees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) The national steering Committee set up by this Ministry to review school textbooks from the standpoint of national integration, in its meeting held on 30-31 January '93 has recommended, inter-alia, that state Boards should be set up for the preparation and authorisation of textbooks to be used in all schools. The recommendations of the Committee were discussed in the Conference of State Education Ministers and Educationists convened by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 1.2.93 to discuss undesirable modifications of school textbooks. As per a decision taken in the Conference the recommendations of the Committee have been sent to the States/UTs urging them for their views for evolving a plan of Action to protect the secular and national characters of school textbooks and other educational material.

" Allotment of Forest land to private parties"

7638. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRON-

MENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the general policy and criterion for allotment of forest land to the private for its development;

(b) whether revenue is collected on such land by State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the forest land given to the private parties for its development in Madhya Pradesh during 1992-93; and

(e) the revenue collected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Prior approval of the Central Government is required under section (2) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes. Detailed consolidated guidelines have been issued by this Ministry for processing and examination of the proposals received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. As per these guidelines State Governments are required to submit the proposals including those of private parties to the Central government for approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) and (c) While according approval to the proposals of the State Government condition of compensatory afforestation, if applicable is stipulated by the Central Government. AS per these conditions User agency is required to deposit the funds for compensatory afforestation in favour of the State Government.

(d) No proposal for diversion of forest land for its development purposes by private parties in Madhya Pradesh, has been approved by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Railway Projects in Rajasthan

7639. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take up some railway line projects in Rajasthan keeping in view the industrial expansion in some major towns of the State;

(b) if so, the details of such projects along with funds allocated during 1992-93 and 1993-94 and progress made so far, project-wise; and

(c) if not reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) A statement is attached

(c) Does not arise.

(a) and (b) A new B. G. line from Mathura to Alwar is under construction. This line falls partly in Uttar Pradesh and partly in Rajasthan. Outlay proposed for this line during 1992-93 was Rs. 13 crores while during 1993-94 it is Rs. 18 crores. The line from Mathura to Deeg has already been opened to traffic. The line from Deeg to Alwar is targeted for completion in 1993-94.

Position regarding gauge conversion works taken up in Rajasthan is as under:

[English]

Name of the Project	Outlay during		Progress
	92-93	93-94	
	(Rs. in crores)		
1. Phulera-Jodhpur, Bikaner (Lalgarth) - Merta Road and Merta Road-Merta City.	60.80	110.00	Lalgarth-Merta Road section has been commissioned
2. Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur-Phulera	60.00	32.00	Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur (Durgapura) section has been commissioned.
3. Rewari-Jaipur	33.00	85.00	This work is targetted for completion in 1993-94
4. Luni-Marwar	-	1.00	-
5. Jodhpur-Jaisalmer	-	5.00	-
6. Phulera-Marwar-Ahmedabad	-	15.00	-

Reservation Counters

7640. SHRIJEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether commuters are being inconvenienced/harassed because of inordinate time being taken in making rail reservation particularly during peak season;

(b) if so, whether steps are being taken to open more number of reservation counters at major stations to reduce the waiting time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) The Waiting time for seeking reservations does increase during the peak season at important stations.

(b) & (c) Additional reservation counters have been provided at important stations like new Delhi, Lucknow, Varanasi, madras, Bangalore, kathgodam, etc.

Environmental Relief fund

7641 DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of the environmental relief fund established under the Public Liability Assurance (DLI) Act, 1991;

(b) the source of earning for this fund and norms fixed for providing assistance from the fund to victims; and

(c) the number of beneficiaries and the amount of assistance provided to them since its inception till now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The aims and objec-

tives of setting up of the Environment Relief Fund is to make available sufficient additional funds at the disposal of the Government for providing immediate relief to the victims of chemical accidents in the event the claims exceed the amount payable by the insurance company in terms of the insurance policy taken out by the owner insurer under the public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, as amended, and the Rules made thereunder.

(b) Each owner holding a policy has to contribute to this fund an amount equal to the annual premium for the policy. The norms of assistance are the same, as provided under the schedule of the Act, for payment from the insured amount and this fund for providing immediate relief to the victims.

(c) There has been no occasion yet to draw any amount from this fund.

Overbridge at Bapajinagar (Bhubaneswar)

7642. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval has been accorded by this Ministry for the construction of a railway overbridge at Bapajinagar in Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of that bridge; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite sanction of funds and to start the construction work on that overbridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 282.00 lakhs

Railway's share = Rs. 134.00 lakhs

State government's share = Rs. 148.00 lakhs

(c) An amount of Rs. 30.00 lakhs has been provided for the work during 1993-94. Progress on Railway's portion is about 20%. Work on approaches has been started by the State Government.

Special Trains

7643. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision of providing special trains for certain purposes;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted for providing such trains; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on maintenance and running of such trains during the last three years, year-wise and income earned during that period from these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Special trains are allotted on first cum first served basis subject to conditions laid down in coaching Tariff and operational feasibility of running such special trains.

(c) Trainwise details of expenditure incurred on maintenance and running of such trains as also income earned therefrom are not maintained.

Preservation of Buddhist Monuments

7644. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Buddhist monuments for the conservation and preservation of which the UNESCO has provided or proposed to provide expertise and aid to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) whether the ASI has drawn up any plans for the excavation, documentation and conservation of these monuments; and

(c) if so, the details of the phased programme prepared therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Japanese government through UNRECO has agreed to assist India in its endeavor to preserve and develop the large number of stupas, monasteries, temples, monolithic pillars and excavated remains at Sanchi and Satdhara in Raisen District of Madhya Pradesh, under the Japanese Trust Fund for Preservation of World Cultural Heritage.

(b) Yes Sir, Plans have been formulated for various activities on the conservation and excavation side.

(c) After the joint inspection of the site with the Japanese and UNESCO experts, primarily a draft project for the extensive scientific clearance, conservation and preservation, environmental development of the monuments of Sanchi and Satdhara has been proposed in the 1st Phase, for the consideration of UNESCO.

[Translation]

Cooperation with Japan

7645. SHRIN.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has offered assistance to India for expanding railway services and to bring improvement therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the suggestions and recommendations made in the fourth meeting of the Indo-japan railway taskforce held in December,

1992; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (d) Indo-japan railway working Group was set up in the year 1989 to identify the areas of cooperation between the two countries in the Railway sector. The last meeting (fourth) was held in November-December, 1992 during which the areas identified for the possible cooperation were, establishing of Research wing in Workshops and production Units, engaging an expert for the Calcutta Metro, seeking technology in the field of PRC OHE masts, optic fibres, 3 phase EMU, OHE maintenance and also training of Indian Engineers. The realisation of cooperation is a continuous process under which proposals in respect of identified areas are formally taken up through official channels with Govt. of Japan, and the position is reviewed in the working Group meeting.

[English]

Ration Cards to Employees in Jammu division

7646. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the migrant Government employees living in Jammu division have been deprived of the right of getting their ration through the Public Distribution System in spite of the fact that these employees are the permanent ration-card holders of Kashmir Division; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance from sugar Development Fund

7647. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals of the Government of Maharashtra for assistance from the sugar Development Fund are pending clearance with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the number and the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the delay in clearing these proposals; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to clear these proposals expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The number and details of the applications for loan from the Sugar Development Fund received from Sugar undertakings in Maharashtra which are pending with the Central Government are shown in the statement at Annexure. The present position regarding each application is indicated in the Remarks column of the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the number and details of the applications for loan from the Sugar Development Fund received from Sugar undertakings in Maharashtra which are pending with the Central Government

S. No.	Name of the sugar undertaking	Date since when pending	Remarks
(a)	Sugarcane Development		
1.	M/s. Pamer Taluka SSK Ltd., Taluk - Pamer, Ahmednagar	6.6.91	This was considered by the Standing Committee on 10.3.93 whose recommendations will be placed before the Screening Committee in its next meeting.
2.	M/s. Shree Datta Shekari SSK Ltd., Shirol, Dattanagar, Taluk-Shirol, Kolhapur	29.3.93	Loan application is under process for being placed before the Screening Committee.
3.	M/s. Mula SSK Ltd., Sonai, Distt. Ahmednagar	6.2.92	Certain clarifications are yet to be received from the State Government on impact report in respect of the earlier loan from SDF. On acceptance of the impact report the proposal will be placed before the Screening Committee.
4.	M/s. Kopergaon SSK Ltd., Gautamnagar, P.O. Kolpewadi, Tal. Kopergaon, Ahmednagar	8.2.93	Loan application is under process for being placed before the Screening Committee.
5.	M/s. Samarth SSK Ltd., Ankushnagar, Vadigodhi Tal. Ambad, Distt. Jalna.	11.11.92	Loan applications under process for being placed before the Screening Committee.
6.	M/s. Wama Sahakari Sakhar Karthana Ltd., Warnanagar	28.4.93	Loan application is under process for being placed before the Screening Committee.
7.	M/s. Shri Satpuda Tapi Parisar S.S.K. Ltd., Purushottamnagar, Dhule.	T24.9.92	The impact report of first cane loan is under process. On acceptance of the same, the proposal will be placed before the Screening Committee.

S. No.	Name of the sugar undertaking	Date since when pending	Remarks
8.	M/s. Balasaheb Desai S.S.K. Ltd., Daulathnagar, Satara.	22.5.92	-do-
9.	M/s. Gachhinglaj Taluka S.S.K. Ltd., Gachhinglaj	17.2.93	This was considered by the Screening Committee on 4.3.93. Being processed for placing before the Standing Committee.
10.	M/s. Bhogwati S.S.K. Ltd., Tulshidasnagar, Tal. Barsi, Solapur.	26.5.89	Was considered by the Standing Committee on 30.7.90 but was deferred due to huge accumulated loss. Would be placed before the Standing Committee after watching further performance.
11.	M/s. Vrideshwar S.S.K. Ltd., Adinathnagar, Vridheswar, Ahmednagar.	1.6.89	-do-
12.	M/s. Pravara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Pravarannagar, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra	25.4.89	Third time cane loan application of the mill was considered by the Screening Committee on 24/25.10.89. Impact Report of second time loan has been received on 20.4.93 from the Director Sugar Maharashtra. On acceptance of the same the third time loan application will be processed further.
(b) Modernisation			
1.	M/s. Jawahar Shetkari S.S.K. Ltd., Hupari, Kolhapur.	2.1.93	Under process for being placed before the Standing Committee.
2.	M/s. Sahyadri S.S.K. Ltd., Yeshwant Nagar, Karad, Satara.	9.2.93	-do-

Railway Stations in Madhya Pradesh

7648. SHRISUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the major railway stations in Madhya Pradesh presently being expanded and developed; and

(b) the station-wise projected investment, the expenditure already incurred thereon and the time schedule fixed for completion of work in respect of each station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Details of major railway stations presently being developed in Madhya Pradesh are as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Station	Investment proposed	Expenditure incurred	Completion target
1. Raipur	40.20	19.46	Dec. '93
2. Durg	50.99	28.33	Dec. '93
3. Habibganj	727.90	448.82	June '94
4. Gwalior	7.45	7.00	Dec. '93

Rail Fare Concession to Senior Citizens

7649. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether senior citizens at the age of 65 years and above are given any concession in railway fare;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this concession in railway fare is admissible to them in local suburban trains also;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether it is proposed to give them this concession in local suburban trains also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). Senior citizens of the age of 65 years and above are given 25% concession in sleeper class and second class while travelling over 500 kms.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There is no such provisions in the extant rules.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Restoration of Trains Between Ara and Sasaram

7650. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

(a) whether train services on Ara-Sasaram railway line have been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any plan to convert this railway line into broad-gauge to facilitate passenger traffic in the area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA)

:(a) and (b) . Ara-Sasaram Railway was a privately managed narrow Gauge line. Due to heavy working losses and road competition, the Company even failed to pay wages to the workers and there was staff unrest. The train services were ultimately closed down w.e.f. 15.2.78 and the Company went into liquidation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does Not arise.

[English]

Foodgrain under DPAP in Madhya Pradesh

7651. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of each item of foodgrain allocated from Fair Price Shops to every adult in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government have recently decided to extend the subsidy benefits to DPAP blocks as in the case of ITDP;

(c) if so, the steps taken in the DPAP blocks in Raigarh and other districts of Madhya Pradesh in that regard; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, - CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) (c) and (d) . The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) . Yes, Sir, with effect from 1st June, 1992.

TTEs in Reserved Coaches

7652. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some instructions exist to ensure display of name of TTE in Reservation Chart displayed outside the Coach;

(b) whether these existing instructions are to help the travelling passengers of reserved coaches to seek cooperation or to point out any irregularity to the respective TTE during their journeys;

(c) whether these existing instructions also provide availability of TTEs outside their respective coaches at least one hour before the scheduled departure of train;

(d) if so, whether these instructions are being followed at all railway stations controlling reservation quota; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) . The TTEs are required to be present outside their coaches half an hour before the departure of the train. In case of any lapse in

this regard, appropriate action is taken against the concerned staff

MBA Programmes

7653. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of the MBA programmes;

(b) whether the Government propose to constitute an organisation/institution to periodically assess the quality of MBA programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government also propose to sponsor a study on management education; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) . The Statutory All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), set

up under the AICTE Act, 1987 has laid down norms and standards for conducting of MBA Programmes. The AICTE has set up the All India Board of Management Studies to advise the Council in the Planning, Promotional and Regulatory aspects of Management Education.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Railway Facilities in Nanded

7654. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representation in August, 1992 from Nanded Zila Railway Parishad (Maharashtra) regarding provision of railway facilities there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

(b)	Facilities Demanded	Action Taken
i)	Taking up the gauge conversion work between Adilabad-Parbhani during 1993-94.	The work on Parbhani-Purna section has been taken up and will be completed during 1993-94. The whole line upto Adilabad will be converted by 1995-96.
ii)	Introduction of a direct BG service from Bombay to Nagpur via Manmad-Adilabad-Pimpal-Khuli after completion of gauge conversion works from Manmad to Adilabad in near future.	Suggestion has been noted.
iii)	Extension of 7569/7570 Kacheguda-Jaipur Express upto Delhi or introduction of superfast train from Delhi to Kacheguda via Jaipur-Ajmer.	Since direct BG service are available between New Delhi and Secunderabad, there is no commercial justification to run a MG train over a slower and longer route.
iv)	Extension of 1001/1002 Panchvati Express upto Aurangabad.	This suggestion was examined but not found feasible from the operational point of view. However, 7589 Nizamabad-Jalna Express provides connection to 1004 Jalna-Bombay Express for travelling towards Bombay and vice versa.
v)	Conversion of 1351/1352 Bombay-Aurangabad Express/Passenger into an express train and provision of facilities and its proper maintenance.	1351/1352 Bombay-Aurangabad Express-cum-Passenger train has been converted into an express train with revised number 1003/1004 express w.e.f. 1.7.92. Provision of facilities and proper maintenance of the train is ensured through stipulated maintenance schedules.

Reservation Quota at Sholapur

7655. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation quota of 2101 at Sholapur Station of Central Railway in IInd Class-II/III tier was reduced;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the original quota of berths provided at this station;

(c) whether the Government propose to restore the original quota of berths at this station; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The second class reservation quota available at Solapur by 2101 Bombay-Secunderabad Minar Express was reduced from 33 to 26 berths with effect from 13.10.1991 due to poor utilisation. Even the reduced quota is being utilised to the extent of 79% only. As such, there is no proposal to restore the quota to 33 berths.

Loss to Catering Units of North Frontier Railway

7656. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether North Frontier Railway Department Catering in incurring heavy loss as per Audit Inspection reports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether dues are outstanding against railway officials also;

(d) if so, the action taken to realise them; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken to stop such alleged irregular credit practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) to (e). No, Sir. The losses on working of departmental catering units on the Northeast Frontier Railway are largely on account of increased incidence of input and staff costs. However, credit bills are outstanding against certain Railway requisitions for special arrangements on different occasions and amount to approx. Rs. 1 lakh. The Zonal Administration has already initiated suitable measures including a special drive for expediting clearance of the outstanding amount.

National Archives Annexe

7657. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the newly built National Archives Annexe is lying vacant;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to put the Annexe to use without delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

New Sugar Policy

7658. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO
DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the broad features and objectives of the new Sugar Policy recently finalised by the Government; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The broad features of the new Sugar Policy are as under:-

(a) The Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane payable by sugar factories for 1992-93 sugar season has been raised to Rs. 31/- per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5%, as against Rs. 26.00 per quintal for the previous season.

(b) For the 1993-94 sugar season, the SMP of sugarcane has been announced in advance at Rs. 32.50 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5%.

(c) The ex-factory price of levy sugar has been raised commensurate with the increase in SMP, conversion cost and distribution cost. A provision of 40 p./kg has also been made to recoup the deficits in the Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund Account of the Food Corporation of India pertaining to earlier years.

(d) Creation of a buffer stock of 5 lakh tonnes of sugar w.e.f. 1.4.1993, for which sugar factories will be reimbursed storage, interest and insurance charges from the Sugar Development Fund.

(e) The levy: freesale ratio of sugar has been changed to 40:60 for 1992-93 season from the earlier ratio of 45:55.

(f) Mid and late period crushing incentives have been announced as under:-

- i) Mid-crushing: The incremental/additional production during the period 1.1.1993 to 30.4.1993 over the production in the corresponding period during 1991-92 season, would be entitled to 80% freesale, as against the normal freesale entitlement of 60%.
- ii) Late-crushing: The sugar production during the period 1.5.1993 to 31.7.1993 would be entitled to 72% freesale, as against the normal freesale entitlement of 60%.

(g) The incentive scheme for new sugar factories and expansion projects has been suitably revised.

All these measures aim at improving the financial viability of the sugar industry leading to increased production, sale and export of sugar. These measures would also provide consequential relief to the farmers in terms of non-accumulation of cane price arrears.

(b) The New Sugar Policy is already being implemented. However, formal orders regarding creation of buffer stock are yet to be issued for want of certain information.

Lucknow College of Arts and Crafts

7659. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA):
DR. S.P. YADAV:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Lucknow Arts College museum lies in ruins" appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated April 6, 1993.

(b) if so, the measures taken to provide adequate funds required for the maintenance and upkeep of Lucknow Arts College Museum;

(c) the action proposed to be taken for restoration work of priceless items; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that all the artefacts are preserved and properly recorded to prevent surreptitious removal from the museum?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The news-item mentions mainly alleged deficiency in the upkeep of the artefacts and in museological techniques, need for urgent restoration work, allegation about surreptitious removal of objects and non-payment of grants for the upkeep of the Museum.

The UGC has informed that the management of Universities and Colleges is a decentralised arrangement in which the State Government and the Colleges concerned are responsible for the management of the College. Further, the College is not recognised for Central assistance under the UGC Act and, therefore, does not receive any assistance for development from the UGC.

self-sufficiency in Edible Oil

7660. SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether self-sufficiency in edible oil is likely to be achieved in the coming years; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER

AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b). India is yet to be self-sufficiency in the production of edible oil.

To give boost to the production of oilseeds and edible oil for achieving self-sufficiency in edible oils in the coming years, Government has taken a number of measures such as thrust to oilseeds production programme, supporting oilseeds projects of NDDB, setting up of technology mission on oilseeds for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technology, intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds, better incentives to producers through fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds, making major policy changes so as to improve the situation and rejuvenate the economy etc., etc.

Natural Calamities in Northern India

7661. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment regarding the damage to crops and property and loss of lives caused by hailstorms, rain and snowfall in the northern parts of the country during March this year has been made;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided by the Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). The States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana have reported damage due to hailstorm during the months of February/March and April, 1993. The extent of damage, based on the

preliminary assessment made by these State Governments, is as under:-

Uttar Pradesh:- Crop damage varying from 5-100% in 18 districts. Loss of 2 human and 53 cattle lives besides damage to 4614 houses.

Madhya Pradesh:- Crop damage in 3.85 lakh ha. area with an estimated value of Rs. 64.58 crore in 34 districts besides loss of 8 human and 193 animal lives.

Rajasthan:- The district wise details as reported by the State Govt. with regard to crop damage are as under:

Bharatpur: Crops damaged in 1767 ha.

Jaipur: Rs. 82.58 lakhs (Value of crop damaged)

Nagaur: Rs. 15.88 lakhs (value of crop damaged).

Jhalawar: Crops damaged in 15190 ha. with an estimated value of Rs. 903 lakhs.

Chittorgarh: Standing crops of Opium, Gram & Coriander damaged from 10-40%.

Haryana:- Crops damaged in 26875 crores in 7 districts.

(c) Under the existing scheme for financing the relief expenditure, State Government are required to initiate necessary relief operations in the areas affected by natural calamities out of the corpus of Calamity Relief Fund. Only the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sought additional Central assistance for meeting the situation in the wake of hailstorm. Central Government has released three instalments of its share of CRF amounting to Rs. 20.81 crores for 1993-94 which were due to be released on 1st April, 1st July and 1st October, 1993; to Government of Madhya Pradesh, to augment the State's

resources for undertaking relief measures in the areas affected by natural calamities including hailstorms.

Meals in Navodaya Vidyalayas

7662. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for providing meals to the students/teachers in Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any on the spot inspections to ensure that the food is actually being supplied to the students;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to sub-standard meals being provided in some schools; and

(e) if so, the remedial action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e). Navodaya Vidyalayas are residential schools and as such satisfactory messing arrangements are given due importance by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti. All students are provided free meals. The Samiti has recently raised the mess expenses from Rs. 280/- to Rs. 350/- per month per student. The mess is run by the Vidyalaya itself under the overall supervision of the Principal and with the help and guidance of the Chairman of the Vidyalaya Management Committee. The Mess Committee consists of the Principal as Chairman and two House Masters (one male and one female); two boys and two girls students and Members and the Catering Assistant as the Member Secretary. The officers from the Headquarters of the

Samiti and the Regional Offices undertake inspection tours of the Vidyalayas including the mess arrangements. Any deficiencies noted during such inspections are brought to the notice of the Principal for immediate remedial action. Complaints/suggestions are often received from various quarters by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti on the need to improve the quality of food served in the mess. These are referred to the Regional Deputy Directors in respect of schools falling under their charge for necessary action.

Fair Price Shops in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh

7663. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Enclaves and Bangladesh territory at present;

(b) whether the facilities such as Fair Price Shops have been provided to the Indian residents of these enclaves as on December 31, 1992;

(c) if so, the names of enclaves where such facilities are available;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these facilities are likely to be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disposal of Customs Bonded Warehouses

7664. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to dispose of the Customs Bonded Warehouses operating under the Central Warehousing Corporation;

(b) if so, the number and location of such warehouses;

(c) the estimated market value of those bonded warehouses under the Central Warehousing Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Central Grass Land Research Institute

7665. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives for setting up Central Grass Land Research Institute at Jhansi;

(b) whether the research undertaken in this Centre is being used in Integrated Development of Agriculture in Bundelkhand region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Indian Grass Land and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi was established in 1962 with the objectives of conducting basic and applied research on grasses grassland and fodder crops and to coordinate research activities at national level. Also to conduct research on all aspects of forage seed production including pest control, seed storage and technology transfer.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Institute has developed Fodder Cereal and Grasses such as Bundel-1 Napier, Bajra Hybrids, Oat (*Avena Sativa*), Berseem variety Wardan, Lucerne, Range Species, Anjan Grass, Marvel Grass, Siratro etc. Technology for intensive fodder production, package of practices have been developed and popularised amongst the farmers. Crop Mixture such as Sorghum Cowpea have been found to be efficient. Technology for breaking the seed dormancy and for integrated grass land development have been developed and popularised. Appropriate machinery for drying the forage, and silage preparation have been developed by the Institute and have been adopted by the farmers of Bundelkhand region.

The Institute has conducted Kisan Melas, farmer training programme and training programme for the subject matter specialists from the area. They have also issued a number of communication bulletins on the technology developed by them.

[Translation]

ISI Mark

7666. SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND:
Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of products not yet covered under ISI standardization;

(b) the duration for which ISI certification remain valid for a product;

(c) whether complaints against sub-standard ISI products have been received from the consumers;

(d) if so., the total number of complaints received during the last two years, State-wise ; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a). Formulation of standards is a continuing process. As on 31st March, 1993, BIS has formulated 9,126 product standards.

(b) The Certification Marks Licence of BIS is initially granted for one year and is renewable on yearly basis based on the performance of the licensee during the operative period.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details are given in the attached statement.

(e) Replacement/repair of the product is provided to the complainant in case the complaint is found to be genuine. Suitable action is also taken against the licensees, wherever necessary, in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations.

STATEMENT

Statewise breakup of complaints received during the year 1991-92 and 1992-93

Sl. No	State	No. of Complaints Received	
		1991-92	1992-93
1.	Delhi	23	13
2.	U.P.	10	26
3.	Punjab	8	14
4.	Haryana	17	12
5.	H.P.	2	6
6.	Rajasthan	9	15
7.	M.P.	6	6
8.	Gujarat	7	15
9.	Maharashtra	39	26
10.	West Bengal	18	18
11.	Assam	3	1

Sl. No.	State	No. of Complaints Received	
		1991-92	1992-93
12.	Bihar	0	3
13.	Orissa	3	3
14.	A.P.	12	7
15.	Karnataka	10	7
16.	Tamil Nadu	13	12
17.	Kerala	8	1
Total		188	185

[English]

**Indian Institute of Technology in
Guwahati**

7667. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Indian Institute of Technology at Guwahati has started functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of courses introduced therein;

(d) whether the Institute has its own building; and

(e) if not, the time by which the building is likely to be constructed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e). In order to establish an Indian Institute of Technology at Guwahati in Assam, a Society has been registered and its Committees like Board of Governors and Finance Committee have been constituted under the Chair-

manship of Hon'ble Governor of Assam with representatives of the Central Government and State Government, among others. Four Continuing Education Programmes each of 3 days duration on Seismic Design of Reinforced Concrete structure, Engineering Design Methods, Computer Based Instrumentation Methods and Computer Appreciations for Managers were conducted in the months of October-November, 1992 and January, 1993. The land has already been acquired. The construction of buildings, however, is yet to start.

National Marine Parks

7668. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the National Marine Parks along with their areas and locations; and

(b) the criteria to declare the same as National Marine Park and guidelines issued by the Government for control and maintenance of such parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). There are three Marine National Parks in the country, their names, location and area are as follows:

<i>Name</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Area (sq. km)</i>
i. Marine National Park (Andaman & Nicobar Islands)	Andamans	281.50
ii. Marine National Park (Gujarat)	Jamnagar	162.89
iii. Marine National Park (Tamil Nadu)	Gulf of Mannar	6.23

An area can be declared as a Marine National Park by a State Government in the same manner and on the same criteria as applicable of declaration of any area as a Na-

tional Park in terms of provisions of Section 35 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

The Central Government guidelines for

control and maintenance of National Parks are applicable to Marine National Parks also. These inter alia stipulate:

- i. that the state government should give a commitment not to change the boundaries of the protected area;
- ii. that the recurring expenditure will be sustained by the State Governments;
- iii. that the protected area would be managed according to the management plans; and
- iv. that trained manpower will be provided for management of national parks.

The Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States have been empowered to control, manage and maintain national parks under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Assistance is also given to the State Governments under the Scheme of "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries" for undertaking programmes which would contribute to betterment of the wildlife habitat and better management of the Park.

Establishment of Textile Mill Under NCDC Project

7669. SHRIMATI CHANDRAPRABHA URS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka for the establishment of a textile mill at Hubli under National Cooperative Development Corporation Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated cost of project; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to clear the project for the benefit of cotton growers of the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) had received a proposal from Government of Karnataka in September, 1992, for financial assistance for setting up a textile mill at Hubli by the Sanjay Cooperative Textile Mills Ltd., Hubli, Distt. Dharwad, Karnataka under the NCDC IV project, proposed to be launched with World Bank assistance.

(b) and (c). The project relates to establishment of a cooperative spinning mill organised by the cotton growers and their cooperatives, with an installed capacity of 25,000 spindles, with a ginning and pressing unit attached to it. The project cost has been estimated at Rs. 28.38 crores. The NCDC IV project has yet not been approved. NCDC would consider the proposal, based on its techno economic viability, as and when the NCDC IV project is approved.

Consumer Rights Day

7670. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Consumer Rights Day has been observed on March 15, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details of special and new programmes launched on that day to make consumers aware of their rights and methods of the enforcement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution organised an exhibition on consumer protection at Super

- Bazar. Caonnaught Place on this occasion. A Directory Containing the addresses of redressal agencies envisaged in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 was released. An outdoor publicity campaign through hoardings, posters, bus panels was also undertaken. A separate award for women consumer activists from this year was also announced. The State Governments, voluntary organisations and other Central Ministries were also requested to observe this day in a befitting manner.

Paddy Cultivation

7671. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether area under the cultivation of paddy has decreased in Kerala during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to give some incentives to paddy growers in the state in view of diversification of land for some other purposes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The area under cultivation of paddy in Kerala during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 (likely) was 559, 545, and 474 thousand hectares respectively.

(c) and (d). For increasing production and productivity of rice in Kerala, Government of India is providing incentives to motivate the small and marginal farmers for adoption of improved production technology on use of certified seeds of paddy, herbicides, plant protection chemicals, farm implements, PP equipments, micro nutrients, under Integrated

Programme for Rice Development (IPRD) to different States including Kerala. Under IPRD, an amount of Rs. 150 lakh has been proposed as central share for 1993-94 against Rs. 126 lakh allocated during 1992-93 to Kerala State.

[Translation]

Starvation Deaths in Uttar Pradesh

7672. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Uttar Pradesh Main Bhookh Se Do Mautain" appearing in the 'Jansatta' dated April 9, 1993;

(b) if so, whether several cases of starvation deaths have been reported from Uttar Pradesh particularly from Varansi;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to save the people from starvation in Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). Government of Uttar Pradesh have deputed a Team of Officers to the village Shahpur in Varanasi district after reports of 2 starvation deaths appeared in newspaper. These Officers have met the family members of the deceased, village Pradhan and other villagers. Based on their visit a discussions with various persons, the Team came to the conclusion that there was enough circumstantial evidence to indicate that the 2 deaths have not taken place

on account of starvation. District authorities have been asked to keep close vigil and take suitable measures to ensure availability of essential commodities, drinking water along with implementation of employment generating schemes.

There has been no report of starvation death from any other state. The drought affected States have already initiated measures like undertaking of employment generation programmes under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) and other schemes, provision of drinking water in the problem areas, provision of adequate stocks of food grain etc. at the tehsil/block level, implementation of Supplementary Nutrition Programmes for infants, lactating mothers etc.

[English]

Fair Price Shops in Delhi

7673. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:
SHRI RAMA KRISHNA
KONATHALA:
SHRI VILASRAO NAG
NATHRAO GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplate to increase the number of fair price shops in Delhi in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to allot the distributorship of Fair Price Shops and Kerosene oil depots to two different persons to avoid monopoly; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Delhi Administration has reported that based on request of the consumers, the need for opening Fair Price Shops is reviewed in different pockets in Delhi, taking into consideration the units position and economic viability of the shops.

(c) to (e). As per the present policy, Delhi Administration does not allot more than one licence to a single person.

[Translation]

Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy Booths in Delhi

7674. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open more booths of Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy to meet the growing requirement of milk in Delhi during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the locations identified for this purpose; and

(c) whether the Government propose to open such booths in North Avenue and West Enclave, Pitampura for the benefits of people residing there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The following twenty six Mother Dairy Bulk Vending Milk Booths are under construction. These booths are likely to be commissioned in the year 1993-94 subject to

availability of power/ water connection, etc. from the respective agencies:-

15. Convenient Shopping Centre, PKT. B&E, Dilshad Garden

1. Block 10, Dakshinpuri Extn.

16. Local Shopping Centre, Block B, Dilshad Garden.

2. Pocket L. Sarita Vihar.

17. CHBS Rishab Vihar (Trans Yamuna).

3. Pocket c-8, Vasant Kunj

18. Sector B, Kondli Gharoli Complex.

4. Baba Kharag Singh Marg.

19. JJ Resettlement Scheme, Trilokpuri.

5. Block A, Resettlement scheme, Jahangirpuri.

20. Sector 21, Noida.

6. Block K. Resettlement Scheme, Jahangirpuri.

21. Sector 22 Noida.

7. Block M, J.J., Shakurpur.

22. Sector 15-A, Noida

8. Near Balbari, Opp. J.J. Colony Shakurpur.

23. Sector 29, Noida.

9. Block C, DDA Flats, Hastasal.

24. Mayur Vihar Phase-I.

10. Group Housing Societies Phase II, Bodella.

25. CHBS, Hindustan Times, Mayur Vihar Phase-I.

11. Sector 6, Rohini

26. Mandawali Fazalpur.

12. Sector IX, Rohini.

Mother Dairy propose to open one Bulk Vending Milk Booth in Rajya Sabha Society, Pritampura subject to allotment of site by the Delhi Development Authority.

13. Block E, JJ Colony No. II, Nangloi.

Subject to availability of funds and allotment of site, Delhi Milk Scheme propose to open the following thirty seven new milk booths during 1993-94:-

14. JJ Resettlement Scheme, New Seemapuri.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No of Depot</i>
1.	Tuglakabad	2
2.	Govind Puri Ext.	2
3.	Andrewsganj Ext	1
4.	Vasant Kunj	3
5.	Mahipal Pur	1
6.	Sheikhsara	1
7.	Dakshin Puri	1

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No.of Depot</i>
8.	Masjidmoth South Extn. Part .II	1
9.	Okhala	1
10.	Sidharth Enclave	1
11.	Sarita Vihar	1
12.	Parahladpur	1
13.	Vigyanlok	1
14.	Mayur Vihar	1
15.	Mayapuri	1
16.	Ram Dutt Encl.	1
17.	Manglapuri, Palam	1
18.	Madhuvihar Pappan Kalan	1
19.	East Sagar Pur	1
20.	Raj Nagar Part .II	1
21.	SB Nagar (Paschim Vihar)	1
22.	Sayyad Vill, near LIC Colony	1
23.	A-3,A-4, Paschim Vihar	1
24.	BG-4, BG-5, Paschim Vihar	1
25.	GH-9 ,Paschim Vihar	1
26.	Shalimar Bag (Pol.Col).	1
27.	Wazirpur Ind. Area	1
28.	Ashok Vihar, Ph-IV & V	2
29.	Pritampura, Rohini	4
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[English]

'Afforestation by Voluntary Agencies'

7675. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to voluntary agencies under the Grants-in- Aid Scheme for involving them in the process of afforestation during 1992-93, agency-wise;

(b) the details of the projects undertaken by them;

(c) whether the Ministry has assessed their performance vis-a-vis the grants given;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The agency-wise details of the projects for afforestation and tree-planting sanctioned to the non-government organisations and voluntary agencies under the Grants-in-Aid Scheme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests are given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e). The project proposals received from the non-government organisations and voluntary agencies are appraised by the State

Forest Departments, reputed institutions, retired forest officers, etc. before they are sanctioned. While the projects are under implementation, mid-term assessment is conducted and then the projects are also evaluated at their conclusion.

As the projects in question were sanctioned during 1992-93, it is too early to mount the evaluations mentioned in the above paragraph.

STATEMENT

(Amount in Rs.)

<i>Name of the Agency</i>	<i>Location of Project</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned</i>
Society of Hill Resource Management School, Bihar	Palamu	4936500
Liberal Association Movement of people, West Bengal	Bankura	199923
Mizoram Voluntary Society, Mizoram	Sialkal	634800
Chaudhry Greening & Welfare Society, Haryana	Panipat	542800
Unik Gramodyog Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh	Etah	571320
Madhav Seva Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh	Mainpuri	666540
Tripura Adimjati Sevak Sangh, Tripura	Agartala	94300
Padma Video Cultural Association, Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah	402710
Rural Education And Development Society, Tamil Nadu	Pasumpon Muthouranalingam	448500
South Indian Energy Plantation Development Society, Andhra Pradesh	Prakasam	717600
Gramaya Vikas Trust, Gujarat	Jamnagar	714800

(Amount in Rs.)

<i>Name of the Agency</i>	<i>Location of Project</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned</i>
Vannad Sanstha, Rajasthan	Udaipur	424126
Purulia Palli Seva Sangha, West Bengal	Purulia	312156
Tamil Nadu Board of Development, Tamil Nadu	Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar	520777
Mota Pondha Vibhag Vriksha Utpadak Sahakari Mandal, Gujarat	Valsad	727300
The Bihar Relief Committee, Bihar	Patna	143520
Sikhya Niketan, Orissa	Sambalpur	506880
Centre for Improvement of Rural Environment, Delhi	Barabanki	427800
Naujhil Integrated Rural Project for Health & Development, Delhi	Mathura	438886
Gayatri Shiksha Sadhan Sansthan, Rajasthan	Udaipur	237762
Institute of Training & Development, West Bengal	Purulia	71760
Priyadarshini Social Forestry Development Society, Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah	419520

(Amount in Rs.)

<i>Name of the Agency</i>	<i>Location of Project</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned</i>
Association for Rural Community Development, Salem	Dharmapuri	294400
Bihar Gramin Kisan Vikash Sangh, Bihar	Palamau	746580
Sempatty Hill Initiators for Eco-Development, Tamil Nadu	Madurai	232020
Madhya Pradesh Gramin Vikas Mandal, Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat	496800
The Activists for Social Alternatives, Tamil Nadu	Trichy	1100800
Gramin Vikas Parishad, Bihar	Deoghar, Bhagalpur	1677040
Gram Vikas Kendra, Bihar	East Singhbhum	303000
Chirag, Uttar Pradesh	Nainital	3293160
Rural Centre for Human Interest, Himachal Pradesh	Sirmour, Shimla, Bilaspur	425040
ST, SC, BC and Minorities Welfare Seva Sangham, Andhra Pradesh	Guntur	414000
School of Fundamental Research, West Bengal	Purulia	233472

Kota Chitorgarh and Neemuch Railway Line

7676. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some railway projects proposed to be implemented in Rajasthan during first, second and third five year plan period have not been implemented so far;

(b) whether the Kota-Chitorgarh and Neemuch Line is one of those projects;

(c) if so, what was the original estimated cost of that project and the amount of escalated cost thereof; and

(d) the details thereof along with the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):
(a) None of the projects is pending.

(b) to (d). No, Sir. The 222 km long Kota-Chitorgarh-Nimach line was completed in 1990-91. Original estimated cost was Rs. 41.09 crores approximately. On completion cost was Rs. 160 crores. The line has since been completed and opened to traffic.

Intra-Urban Services

7677. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scope to earn revenue by providing intra-urban services;

(b) if so, whether Railways are not partici-

pating actively in the intra-urban services;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore and the possibility explored by the Government in that regard; and

(d) the details of the programmes of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Production of Pulses

7678. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of pulses in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) whether the production during the last two years exceeded the target earmarked therefor;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the step taken or proposed to be taken by the government for increasing the production of pulses in Uttar Pradesh especially in Bundelkhand region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). The targets fixed for pulses and production achieved in Uttar Pradesh in the last 2 years are as below:

(Lakh-Tonnes)

Year	Target	Production
1991-92	29.3	25.15
1992-93	26.65	25.92 (Tentative)

(d) In order to provide impetus to the production of pulses, the Centrally sponsored National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) is in operation in 24 States including Uttar Pradesh. The project covers 26 districts in Uttar Pradesh including the districts of Hamirpur, Banda, Jalaun Jhansi and Lalitpur of Bundelkhand Region. Under the project, basic key inputs are supplied to the farmers on subsidised rates.

Vacant Posts in Coach Repair Factory, Bhopal

7679. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts sanctioned and created for the coach repair factory at Bhopal during the last three years;

(b) the number of posts actually filled up so far and the number of the incumbents so posted who are bonafide residents of Bhopal city; and

(c) whether any reservation still exists for candidates belonging to Bhopal who were affected by the gas disaster that had taken place at Bhopal in 1984 and the number of reserved posts so filled up by the gas victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (K.C. LENKA): (a) 364 posts were created during the last three years i.e. 1990-91, 1991-92 & 1992-93. With this the total number of posts sanctioned comes to 1107.

(b) So far 1060 posts have been filled up out of which 450 incumbents are bonafide residents of Bhopal City.

(c) Reservation existed only upto 31.12.1992. 201 posts have been filled by Gas victims.

[Translation]

"Drinking Water Facility in Ghana Sanctuary"

7680. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of availability of drinking water in the Ghana Sanctuary;

(b) whether the drinking water is sufficient for tourists and other people visiting there;

(c) if not, the scheme of the Government to overcome the shortage;

(d) whether the Government propose to make water available to Ghana Sanctuary from Yamuna river;

(e) if so, the quantum thereof and the time by which the Yamuna water is likely to be available there; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). According to the report of the sanctuary authorities sufficient drinking water is available in Ghana bird Sanctuary for tourists and other visitors at suitably spaced places.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f). While various alternative sources for augmentation of water supply at the sanctuary have been suggested, no scheme has yet been finalised.

Foodgrain Stock in Madhya Pradesh

7681. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the position of foodgrains stock in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total quantity of wheat and rice likely to be procured during the marketing season of 1993 as compared to the actual demand of this state; and

(c) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The level of stocks of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in Madhya Pradesh held by Food Corporation of India as on 1st January, 1993, as compared to the stocks held by FCI in the State as on 1st January of 1990, 1991 and 1992 are indicated below:-

(figures in '000 tonnes)
(Provisional)

Year	Rice	Wheat	Total
1.1.1990	239.0	146.1	385.1
1.1.1991	502.9	354.5	857.4
1.1.1992	548.0	135.4	683.4
1.1.1993	418.6	101.7	520.3

(b) and (c). As against 134 Mts. of wheat procured in Madhya Pradesh during the 1992-93 rabi marketing season, the procurement of wheat has been 43,343 MTs. till 30th April, 1993 in the State during the current 1993-94 rabi marketing season. The annual demand for wheat made by Government of Madhya Pradesh is 7,25,000 MTs.

As regards rice, against 4,04,126 MTs of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) procured in Madhya Pradesh for the Central Pool during the 1991-92 kharif marketing season, the procurement of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) has been 6,34,274 MTs till 30th April, 1993 in the State during the 1992-93 kharif marketing season. The total demand of rice for PDS made by Madhya Pradesh Government is 5,40,000 MTs.

[English]

Legislation for Women's Rights

7682. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Widows face a harrowing time" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated April 10, 1993; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far by the National Commission for Women to suggest legislation relating to the safeguards for women keeping in view the present-day domestic violence being perpetrated upon them and their rights in the matrimonial home?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Commission for Women has constituted a Committee of experts to suggest necessary measures with reference to matrimonial property, domestic violence and related

matters.

EMU Coaches

7683. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether structural changes in the steel shells of the EMU ordinary passenger coaches are under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the nature of changes which are under study; and

(c) the time bound programme to implement the above changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The changes under study are designed to reduce the weight of coach shell by economising on steel utilised.

(c) No time frame has been laid down in this regard.

Captive Power Stations in Madhya Pradesh

7684. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry of planning to set up captive power stations in Madhya Pradesh with a view to meet the requirements of electrical traction; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Voluntary Organisations for Women and Child Welfare

7685. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have detected functioning of some alleged bogus voluntary organisations in the name of the welfare of the women and children;

(b) whether the Government have released grants to such organisations;

(c) the action taken/ proposed to be taken against such organisation; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure proper utilisations of grants sanctioned to such organisations in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI): (a) Some alleged bogus voluntary organisations have been detected by the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) working under the department of Women & Child Development.

(b) Grants were earlier released to such organisations by the CSWB. But after detection of such organisations, grants have been stopped.

(c) and (d). The organisations have been blacklisted. The question of release of grants to such organisations does not arise.

Pantry Car Contractors

7686. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pantry car contractors in North Frontier Railways are not paying regularly

the licence fees at enhanced rate;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA):

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The licence fee of Pantry Cars have been revised twice on 2.11.1988 and 21.10.1991 but the contractors are not willing to pay on the plea of high rate. Follow up action including serving of notices to the defaulters has been initiated.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University

7687. SHRI BOLLABULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded clearance to the proposal to set up Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University with the status of Central University;

(b) if so, the details including the location thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). A decision has been taken, in principle, to convert Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University at Lucknow into a Central University. Necessary action for appropriate legislation is being taken in consultation with the State Government, UGC, etc.

Efficiency And Productivity of Railways

7688. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railwaymen have been directed to optimise efficiency and productivity of the Railways;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has taken any new steps recently for bringing out visible improvement in punctuality, cleanliness and courtesy in dealing with the public;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that there is no let up in the efforts for sustaining higher standards of discipline, service and output of the railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Some of the steps taken by this Ministry include surprise checks to foster a keen sense of punctuality and discipline in attendance and, also, inculcation consciousness regarding the need for cleanliness; round-the-clock cleaning arrangements at the bigger stations; provision of more effective refuse/garbage collection and removal arrangements; provision and proper maintenance of aprons drainage system on platform line; organising a special course on 'Courtesy and Customer Care' for front line staff which was conducted by experts using latest behavioural techniques and, subsequently, utilising this course to develop a training module for inclusion as part of the regular training programmes in the zonal Training Schools of Indian Railways; etc..

(d) the surprise checks, regular inspection at various levels; continuous monitoring of performance, and the training programmes are designed to ensure performance at the highest order.

Support Price for Copra

7689. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had announced the minimum support price for miling and Ball Copra for 1992;

(b) if no, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for fixing the minimum support price of Copra at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The issue relating to fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) of copra for 1992 season was examined by the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP). The CACP was of the view that as the prices of copra in 1991 in the major copra producing States were 47 to 51 percent higher than the 1990 prices and the prices were unlikely to fall like to economic lives during 1992, there was no need for announcing MSP for copra. Even other Ministries and Planning Commission Supported the views of CACP. The announcement of MSP at a levels much below the market prices might have affected adversely the interests of growers. The Government therefor, after examining the copra situation in its totality, decided not announce the MSP or copra for the 1993 season.

(c) The fixation of MSP for copra for 1993 season is under the active consideration of Government.

Stalls on Bombay Suburban Stations

7690. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a large number of stalls on platforms of suburban railway stations in Bombay causing inconvenience to commuters;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to reduce the number of these stalls;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (d) Keeping in view the growing congestion on platforms, a ban has been imposed on the zonal Railways for increase in the number of stalls/trolleys, etc. on suburban stations of Bombay Metropolitan City.

Maintenance of Ecological Balance in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh Territory

7691. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Enclaves in Enclaves in Bangladesh Territory,

(b) the amount allocated to each of such enclaves for the checking of pollution and maintenance of ecological balance as on December 31, 1992; and

(c) the amount likely to be allocated to such enclaves during 1993-94 therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL LOKNATH): (a) there are 110 exchangeable and 11 d non-exchangeable Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh.

(b) All India Enclaves in Bangladesh are under the administrative control of the Government of Bangladesh. Government of India are, therefore, in no position to allocate funds for the checking of pollution and maintenance of ecological balance in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh.

(c) Does not arise.

Khandsari Units in Utter Pradesh

7692 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will

the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

[English]

(a) the number of khandsari units functioning in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) the total quantity of khandsari produced therein during 1992-93;

(c) the per quintal sugarcane price paid to the farmers by these khandsari unites;

(d) the number of khandsari units inspected during the said period and the number of unites in which irregularities have been found; and

(e) the details of the action taken against such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NAT RAI): (a) During the season 1992-93 (upto February, 1993), khandsari Units had worked in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) During the season 1992-93 (upto February, 1993), 3.55 lakh tonnes of Khandsari was produced by the aforesaid Units.

(c) The sugarcane price paid to the farmers by these units varied from Rs. 26 to 58 per quintal of cane.

(d) Till February during this season, the number of inspections done were 9866 and irregularities were found in 148 units.

(e) In respect of the aforesaid irregularities, 33 first information reports were lodged with police, one prosecution was launched and 47 units were sealed.

Storage Capacity in Maharashtra

7693. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the storage capacity of temporary godowns and stores in Maharashtra has been enhanced;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains damaged due to inadequate storage capacity; and

(d) the manner in which the government propose to utilise the foodgrains damaged on account of natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to low utilisation of godown capacity for foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India which varied from 26 per cent to 41 per cent in Maharashtra during 1992-93, the augmentation of temporary godowns was not required to be enhanced.

(c) No foodgrains were damaged in Maharashtra on account of inadequate storage capacity during the year 1992-93.

(d) The damaged foodgrains are categorised into the following five categories as detailed below and disposed of according to the prescribed procedure:-

S.No	Percentage of sound/ slightly damaged/touched grains (including broken and refraction)	Category in which stocks may be declared fit.
1.	70% to 85%	Cattle feed.
2.	55% to 70%	Poultry feed.

<i>S.No</i>	<i>Percentage of sound/ slightly damaged/touched grains (including brokens and refraction)</i>	<i>Category in which stocks may be declared fit.</i>
3.	30% to 55%	Industrial use.
4.	10% to 30%	Manure.
5.	Less than 10%	Damaged.

Subsidy on Agricultural Equipments

7694. SHRIDHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to States for purchasing agricultural equipments by farmers at subsidised rate during the last three years;

(b) the amount of financial assistance likely to be provided for the said purpose during 1993-94; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make available agricultural equipments at very low cost to small and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURAL (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Central Assistance to the tune of Rs. 180.60 lakhs was provided to the States for purchasing agricultural equipments by farmers

at subsidised rates during 1991-92 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for popularisation of improved agricultural equipments. This scheme has been discontinued from the year 1992-93. Besides, Central assistance is also provided to the States for use of inputs including assistance on agricultural equipments through various Central/Centrally Sponsored Crop Oriented Programmes. Funds are not released Centrally Sponsored Crop Oriented Programmes. Funds are not released separately for agricultural equipments under these programmes.

Central funds released during the last 3 years under these programmes are given in the attached statement.

(b) The level of assistance during 1993-94 is likely to be 10 percent higher as compared to 1992-93.

(c) Under the on-going oriented Programmes, State Governments have been advised that preference should be given to the small and farmers for providing assistance.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Central Funds released		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Integrated Programme for Rice Development	7896.54	4154.45	4204.10
2.	Special Foodgrain Production Programme - Wheat	1848.91	1904.85	3926.96
3.	Special Foodgrain Production Programme - Maize & Millets	1208.43	1377.21	1460.45
4.	Intensive Cotton Development Programme	174.66	308.61	976.06
5.	Special Jute Development Programme	323.19	533.40	142.48
6.	Oilseeds Production Programme	4869.00	5336.00	6699.90
7.	National Pulses Development Programme	929.11	1570.53	1579.00

[*Translatin*]

to be set up in Madhya Pradesh;

Contract System

7695. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish execution of railway works/projects through contractors and to get the work done departmentally;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Railway Contract System is sufficiently streamlined and there is no proposal for introducing any change.

[*English*]**Vanaspati Units in Madhya Pradesh**

7679. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up some vanaspati units in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such units proposed

(c) whether any such unit is proposed to be set up in Raigarh district; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):
(a) No Sir.

(b) to (d). Question does not arise.

Railway Bonds

7697. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to float bonds for collection of funds for different railway projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with name of such projects for which funds are proposed to be raised in this manner and the terms and conditions of the bonds; and

(c) the rate of interest and total funds so far collected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):
(a) to (c) Only for Konkan Railway Project being executed by Konkan Railway Corporation, the Indian Railway Finance Corporation, an Undertaking of the Ministry of Railways, have floated bonds as detailed below:

S.No.	Year	Amount of Bonds	Rate of interest	Maturity
1.	1991-92	Rs. 111.64 crores	9% tax free	10 years
2.	1992-93	Rs. 105 crores	10.5% tax free	10 years
3.	1993-94 (upto April, 1993)	Rs. 3.00 crores	10.5% tax free	10 years

During 1993-94, the Konkan Railway Corporation itself is likely to float bonds worth Rs. 400 crores at 10.5% tax free.

[Translation]

Training Centres for Destitute Women

7698. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from each State Government for financial assistance to set up training centres as well as employment oriented training and production centres with the help of Norway International Development Agency for the rehabilitation of destitute women during each of the last three years; and

(b) the extent of assistance provided to each State during each year separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI): (a) The Scheme of setting up of Employment and Income Generating cum Employment cum Production Units for Women (NORAD) is meant to provide training and subsequent employment to rural and urban poor women and other disadvantaged groups of women. A statement indicating the number of applications received from States/UTs during the last three years is given in the attached Statement - I.

(b) A statement indicating the release of funds state-wise to NGOs, other organisations implementing the Scheme excluding States during the last three years is given in the attached statements-II.

STATEMENT

(Number of Applications Received in Last Three Years)

S. No.	State/U.T.	1990	1991	1992 (upto 31.3.93)	1992
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	14	40	5
2.	Assam	-	1	2	-
3.	Bihar	1	7	8	3
4.	Gujarat	2	6	6	-
5.	Haryana	3	10	11	2
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	2	2	1
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	3	2	-
8.	Karnataka	4	4	4	3
9.	Kerala	1	5	3	1
10.	Madhya Pradesh	-	14	13	3
11.	Maharashtra	8	15	7	5
12.	Manipur	1	3	-	-
13.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-

S. No.	Slate/U. T.	1990	1991	1992 (upto 31.3.93)	1992
14.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-
15.	Orissa	4	4	17	7
16.	Punjab	4	1	9	1
17.	Rajasthan	-	5	9	1
18.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-
19.	Tamil Nadu	3	610	2	-
20.	Tripura	-	-	-	-
21.	Uttar Pradesh	11	16	34	8
22.	West Bengal	2	21	38	9
23.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-
25.	Goa	-	-	-	-
26.	Delhi	-	8	9	3
Total		43	145	224	54

STATEMENT-II

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
(Rs. in lakhs)				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.18	38.92	92.05
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
3.	Assam	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	8.58	6.35
5.	Goa	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	8.89	9.02	-
7.	Haryana	42.86	20.42	59.85
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.34	6.02	-
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	1.80	4.88
10.	Karnataka	-	-	12.78
11.	Kerala	7.37	4.67	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	10.83

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
(Rs. in lakhs).				
13.	Maharashtra	10.50	24.52	-
14.	Manipur	-	-	-
15.	Meghalaya	-	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	-
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-
18.	Orissa	3.00	13.48	6.63
19.	Punjab	60.74	16.43	82.61
20.	Rajasthan	-	1.57	1.89
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	20.96	-	28.09
23.	Tripura	1.22	-	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	29.33	33.30	45.99
25.	West Bengal	6.05	19.10	16.09

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
(Rs. in lakhs)				
26.	A & N Islands	-	-	-
27.	Chandigarh	-	-	-
28.	D & N Haveli	-	-	-
29.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-
30.	Delhi	0.56	2.17	24.33
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	-	-	-
Total		200.00	200.00	400.00

[English]

Konkan Railway Project**Disease Free Hybrid Seeds**

7699. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to some experts, the Hybrid dwarf wheat, is losing out to weeds leading to declining yields in India's wheat belt spread over north India;

(b) whether Government has been able to identify some effective herbicides to which weeds are yet to develop resistance or build some new system of resistance into wheat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Hybrid dwarf wheat is not grown in India. However, the yield of wheat is not declining in India's wheat belt spread over north India.

(b) and (c). Although there are number of herbicides developed but only following eight herbicides are registered under Insecticide Act for weed control in wheat crop:

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 1. | 2, 4-D |
| 2. | Isoproturon |
| 3. | Methabenzthiazuron |
| 4. | Mataxuron |
| 5. | Triallate |
| 6. | Dichlormate |
| 7. | MCPA |
| 8. | Pondimethalin |

7700. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had received a report from Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore regarding environmental clearance of Konkan Railway Project;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the report;

(c) whether the Government have approved these recommendations; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Tobacco Production

7701. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh is the largest producer of tobacco in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to assist the State Government in increasing its production; and

(c) the financial assistance provided to the tobacco growers by the Government during 1992-93 and likely to be provided during 1993-94.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Govt. of India is not implementing

any Central Sector/ Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for the development of tobacco in the country. However, the Tobacco Board under the Ministry of Commerce is implementing plan schemes for improving quality and yield of virginia tobacco through balanced fertilisation, pest and disease control, supply of sprinkler units, supply of barn accessories, training of farmers etc.

(c) During 1992-93, Tobacco Board provided financial assistance of Rs. 42.05 lakh to growers of A.P. for increasing tobacco production under their schemes while during 1993-94, an outlay of Rs. 104.89 lakh has been earmarked for the state.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Stations in Uttar Pradesh

7702. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh, Modernised by providing computerised reservation and other basic facilities to the passengers during 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) The following major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh were modernised by providing basic and additional passenger facilities during 1990-91 and 1991-92:

1. Agra Cantt.
2. Jhansi
3. Chitrakoot Dham Karvi
4. Lucknow (NR)
5. Lucknow Jn. (NER)

6. Allahabad
7. Allahabad City
8. Moradabad
9. Gorakhpur
10. Kathgodam
11. Agra Fort

Computerised reservation facilities were provided at Allahabad Kanpur and Varanasi.

(b) Rs. 985.13 lakh.

[English]

Loading of Perishable Commodities at Dudhani Station

7703. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether perishable items, like fruits are not allowed to be loaded from Dudhani Station of Central/South Central Railways and the issue was raised at various meetings of DRUCC during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to allow loading of such items from the said station during the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA):

(a) and (b) There is a restriction on booking of perishables like fruits etc. at Dudhani Station by Mail/Express trains having a halt of less than 2 minutes and for destinations upto 150 kms. The issue was, however, not raised in the DRUCC meetings.

(c) There is no proposal to lift the above restriction.

"Environmental Audit"

7704. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA
PATTANAYAK:
DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmental audit was un-
dertaken in some industrial units during 1992-
93;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise;

(c) whether the industry has expressed
reservations on the mode of conducting the
environmental audit; and

(d) if so the reaction of the Government
thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-
ISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
(SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Under the
scheme environmental audit, a programme of
sample auditing of only one industry in each of
the 17 priority categories of industries has been
taken up, for preparing model reports. In 1992-
93, action has been preparing model reports. In
1992-93, action has been initiated to undertake
such audit in the following eleven categories of
industries, namely; sugar, cement, fermenta-
tion and distillery, aluminium, sulphuric acid,
tanneries, copper smelter, zinc smelter, pulp
and paper, basic drugs and pharmaceuticals
and thermal power.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Amrit Dhara Scheme

7705. SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUHARY:

MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF
FATIMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial assistance is be-
ing given by the Government for the construction
of wells under the 'Amrit Dhara' scheme;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance given
during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the number of wells constructed so far
asper the target fixed during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND
NETAM): (a) There is no scheme being imple-
mented by the Department of Agriculture and
Cooperation for the construction of wells call the
'Amrit Dhara' scheme.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Land in Karnataka

7706. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will
the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has
sought technical and financial assistance from
Switzerland for the development of land under
Range Land Revegetation project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the acreage of land likely to be devel-
oped under the said project?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND
NETAM): (a) to (c) The information is being
collected and will be laid on the Table of the
Sabha.

Leak out of Question Paper of Kendriya Vidyalaya

7707. SHRI SHANKARRAO D. KALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether question papers of Annual Examination, 1993 of Class IX and Class XI of Kendriya Vidyalaya in Delhi have been leaked out;

(b) whether these question papers were being sold at some Book Stalls in Delhi at some premium;

(c) if so, the details of the case and action taken against the erring officials involved; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government to avoid recurrence in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has informed that an inquiry conducted by them in the matter has not established the leakage of the question papers of Classes IX & XI.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Allocation of Amount to Organisations in Kerala

7708. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been allocated to Karayil Yuvajana Kala Samithi, Kerala for conducting socio-cultural activities as also for holding camps, seminars, melas etc. during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated to the Samithi for various activities;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint against the Samithi regarding the alleged corrupt practices, misappropriation of the fund; and

(d) if so, action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from all the Departments of the Ministry of Human Resource Development and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Honour to Malayalam Poet

7709. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal to honour the great Malayalam Scholar and Poet Thunchan Ezhuthachan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). No proposal has been received from the Kerala Govt. However, the Government of Kerala had forwarded a proposal from a voluntary organisation for celebrating the birth centenary of Thunchan Ezhuthachan. The proposal had been considered in this Department and a sum of Rs.75,000/- has been sanctioned for

celebrating the birth centenary celebration of Thunchan Ezhuthachan.

Opening of Business Management Institute in Kerala

7710. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala to set up an Institute of Business Management for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARISELJA): (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. The State Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for the approval of Government of India for starting an Institute of Management in the State. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) appointed an Expert Committee which has since submitted its report. The matter is being further examined in consultation with the State Government.

Promotion to Floricultural Research

7711. SHRI RAMAKRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage Agricultural Scientists to develop new varieties of floriculture crops in order to explore the export possibilities in European countries;

(b) if so, whether new varieties of Rose, Tulips, Nargis have been developed by Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of places where Indian Institute of Horticultural Research propose to grow new varieties of flowers on large scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. (SHRI S. KRISHNAKUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Institute has the mandate to develop varieties and technologies and not large scale growing of flowers.

Market Intervention Operation in Pepper

7712. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from Kerala Government for the applications of market intervention operation in Pepper;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal for Market Intervention in black pepper has been finalised in consultation with State Government of Kerala. Under the scheme, initially a quantity of 3,000 mts is to be purchased at Rs.33/- per kg. FAQ by the Central Nodal Agency i.e. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. and State designated agency on equal basis till end of June, 1993. The losses, if any, under the scheme will be borne on 50:50 basis by the Central Govt. and the Govt. of Kerala.

Pest Infested Wheat

7713. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Govt. may end up buying pest infested wheat" appearing in the Business Standard, Calcutta dated April 11, 1993;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity and value of the weevil-infested wheat contemplated to be procured;

(c) the rationale behind the procurement of this wheat; and

(d) the manner in which it is proposed to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALPNATHRAI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). No weevil-infested wheat unfit for human consumption is procured by the Food Corporation of India or other public procuring agencies. In fact, percentage of weevilled grains

allowed under the standard specifications applicable to procurement is much less than that allowed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Social Forestry in Madhya Pradesh

7714. KUMARI PUSHPADEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the different Social Forestry programmes undertaken in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the target fixed and the achievement made during the above period;

(c) whether survival rate of such plants is much less and several of them destroyed due to lack of proper protection; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Afforestation and tree planting activities, including social forestry, are being carried out in all States, including Madhya Pradesh, under various Central and State Plan Schemes like Externally-aided Forestry Projects, Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests, Strip Plantations, Farm Forestry, Production Forestry, Control of Shifting Cultivation, Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme, Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme, Drought Prone Area Programme, Tree Cooperatives Project, Rural Employment Schemes, etc.

(b) The targets and achievements of afforestation/tree planting activities in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are as under:

Seeding in Lakhs Area in hectares

Year	Targets		Achievements	
	Seeding Distribution (for planting on private lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedings Distribution (for planting on private lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1990-91	2650.00	61650	464.40	75042*
1991-92	600.00	95000	614.60	103151
1992-93	600.00	110000	561.21@	121394@

@ - (Upto January, 1993)

* From 1990-91 targets were set and consequently achievements monitored in terms of two mutually exclusive items viz., seedling distribution for planting on private lands, and area coverage for planting on public lands, including forest lands.

(c) and (d). Sample checking of afforestation/ tree planting activities carried out during 1991-92 through independent agencies/experts in the districts of Bastar, Sarguja and Chhindwara indicate an average survival rate of around 70%. With a view to improve performance, all State Governments including Madhya Pradesh, have been advised to strengthen the monitoring mechanisms as well as to draw up location wise details of afforestation and tree planting activities and share this information widely with the people's representatives and the public.

'Global Technology Partnership Conference'

7715. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives from India have participated in the Global Technology Partnership Conference held at Birmingham in March, 1993;

(b) if so, the main deliberations in the

Conference and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the British Government has requested India to buy its environment technology; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) A Delegation from the Confederation of Indian Industry had participated in the "Global Technology Partnership Conference held at Birmingham between 22nd and 25th March, 1993.

(b) The Conference focussed on following issues:-

The challenge for Business in the context of 'Earth Summit' at Rio.

Technology cooperation.

Business-to-Business relations in

technology areas.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

Funding Technology Cooperation.

(Interruptions)

In addition to above subjects, there were 15 workshops on different environmental technology areas.

MR. SPEAKER: Anything against the Election Commission is not going on record.

(Interruptions)

(c) and (d). Information is being collected and will be placed before the House.

[Translation]

12.00 hrs.

Special Mentions

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, You allow half-an-hour discussion on this. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Today, we have to discuss the Demands of the Agriculture Ministry and in the evening we are going to apply guillotine also. After that we have decided to take up the Appropriation Bill and the Finance Bill also. I will seek the co-operation of all the Members to raise one or two issues very briefly and give more time to them. Before, I ask the Members to raise the issues, two kinds of information, I would like to give to you. One is, the Commerce Minister has written to me seeking permission to make a statement on the action taken against India under Super 301. He is going to make a statement. I have allowed him to make a statement. I have also received a letter from the Home Minister. He wants to make a statement on what has happened in Manipur. so, these two matters need not be taken up immediately. If there are any other matters, we can take up now and after the statements are made, we can consider whether we will have to discuss them or not.

(Interruptions)*

SHRIMADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): About 10 days ago there was a news on TV that an agreement has been reached with Haryana according to which Delhi would be getting an additional supply of water from the very next day. News to this effect was telecast, Delhi has been experiencing severe scarcity of electricity and water from the every day. Water supply may be normal in the adjoining parts of Delhi. I am not aware of the factual position in that regard—however, it has become routine thing for the last about 8-10 days and people raise slogans at least 3-4 times during the night, thus causing a disturbance in our sleep. It is true that they have been facing most frequent power failures. The most interesting thing is that contrary to the official Statements there has been a constant power supply electricity from the Northern grid. Actually the transmitters are of such a low quality that they fail again and again, they have just collapsed. That is why the duration of failure of power supply extends to 36 hours continuously in one area or the other. Not only the Delhites have been facing a lot of inconvenience, but the small scale industries have come on the verge of closure, thus creating a probability of rendering lakhs of labourers unemployed. Similar position prevails with regard to the supply of drinking water. Water has not been available to people. Wells have dried up. The level of ground water has receded. Availability of water has become lesser particularly in urbanised villages. It will take time to set up an autonomous body with regard to the utilization of Yamuna water. At present, I would like the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to convene an emergency meeting of the

MP's and officers and take steps on warfooting to restore normal electricity and water supply to the people of Delhi. The Government may please take immediate measures to provide relief to the people.

(English)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, the recent decision of the Railway Ministry to introduce a sleeper class has created serious hardships to the daily commuters who are travelling in the reserved compartments paying an additional charge. Now, they are not allowed to travel in the reserved compartments. There are hundreds of Government servants travelling short distances throughout the State using concession tickets. This is the only mode of transport for their journey. Now they are totally prevented from using the reserved compartments. They are vacant, but the daily commuters are not allowed to get into them.

Sir, a serious agitation has been going on in the State for the last several days and we are informed that hundreds of Government servants have been arrested recently. The situation in Kerala is very tense and so since both the Railway Ministers are here, I would plead with them that some urgent action may be taken to provide facilities for the travel of the daily commuters either by adding more coaches exclusively for their journey or by permitting them to travel short distances as was being done previously by charging an additional nominal fare as a very special case. I would request them to react now because Kerala is in a tense situation and the agitation is going on there. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE (Alleppey): Sir, I have given notice. I take this opportunity to protest against the policy of the Railway Ministry and it is creating hardships for the passengers. By introducing a new sleeper class the Railway is brutally robbing the passengers. This has created many problems in Kerala and even clashes have occurred. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): We

would urge upon the Railway Minister to reply to what has been raised by Mr. Charles because this is a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: May I ask the Railway Minister to reply, please?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. C. THOMAS: This is a very serious issue. Two lakh people are involved. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am giving you some help in this regard.

SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: We want a reply from the hon. Minister to this.

MR. SPEAKER: Try to understand. You take your seats please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please try to understand. I am trying to help you. You take your seats.

Mr. Railway Minister, will you please advise your colleagues to come to your Chamber and discuss this matter with them?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAY (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): Sir, I always welcome them.

SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Sir, I demand that the new sleeper class be withdrawn immediately and earlier position restored. *(Interruptions)*

12.10 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Thayil John Anjalose and Shri P. C. Thomas came and sat on the floor near the table.

SHRI BASUDEBACHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the 25 per cent sleeper class charges should be immediately withdrawn. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the hon. Minister gives his reply, the House should know why the hon. Members have been so agitated. I would urge upon you to kindly direct one hon. Member...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles has already spoken.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: When did he speak, who listened?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is already recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: No, it should not be so. The hon. Members must know it.

MR. SPEAKER: It is with regard to Railway sleepers. He has already spoken. Then the chain will start.

SHRIMO HAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the problem of the entire country, people of our area are also concerned about it (Interruptions) This problem concerns the entire country. (Interruptions)

12.13 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Thayil John Anjalose and Shri P. C. Thomas went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If it is a complicated matter and if you want to discuss it, let us find a way out of it. Today you know and I had already put before you that we have to discuss the Demands of the

Agriculture Ministry and we have to apply the guillotine and then there are Bills also to be considered. If you wait for one or two days, you can clinch the issue also. This is not for the first time, many times it was done and it is not for the Members of the ruling party, who have access to the Minister as the other Members also have access to the Minister, to raise it in this manner on a day like this. It is not correct.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Unless the Minister is able to find some solution, it is a very serious problem.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAY (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): This is basically a problem. (Interruptions) Please bear with me, I have not created anything.

In the last Budget, when we presented it there had been a problem for long that the long distance passengers feeling difficult to travel because the commuters used to enter into their compartments. This practice has been allowed for long. Therefore, to facilitate the long distance passengers. (Interruptions) Allow me to complete my speech. Then, if you have got anything, you can ask me.

A separate class was made sleeper class in which separate charges were levied. The charges were increased with the Railways taking responsibility for the people for whom the seats or berths are being reserved, they alone will travel and the commuters will not be allowed to enter into it. If you go through the Budget, you will know it. As a result of that measure, I do appreciate the anxiety of the Members. That has created problems for a lot of commuters who go for day to day work. I understand it. I appreciate that. For that problem a solution has to be found. Alternative arrangement has to be made.

I have seized of the matter. I assure the hon. Members that today itself I will discuss this and find a solution and see that the people, especially

the commuters who travel will not get into any problem. We will find out a solution for that (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Without increasing the number of second class coaches how can you solve it? There should be increase in the number of coaches. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Sir, about 10-12 days ago, it was stated in the House that an agreement had been reached with Haryana and that Delhi would be getting additional supply of water from the very next day. However, the water and electricity crisis prevails even today in Delhi. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs or the hon. Minister of water resources may please convene a meeting. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roserā): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is fighting with me, but I cannot do even that. (*Interruptions*)

12.19 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Delhi has been facing an acute shortage of water and electricity. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM (East Delhi): Sir, about three thousand residents of West Vinod Nagar badly need drinking water, not even a single drop of water is available to them. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, I will have a meeting of Members of Parliament from Delhi and sort out these things.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): A new constitutional crisis might

be created with the actions of the Chief Election Commissioner. Every constitutional authority has to function within given parameters and no one is above the constitution.

12.19 hrs.

RE. ATROCITIES BEING PERPETRATED ON DALITS AND PEOPLE BELONGING TO SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES IN AGRA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roserā): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious matter. We have been constantly raising the matters regarding atrocities being committed on Dalit, particularly in the Congress ruled States. The matter regarding the incident that occurred in Mysore was raised thrice in the House, but no solution was found. An hon. Member Shri Pratap even resigned on that issue. He pointed out that the Government of Karnataka. (*Interruptions*) it has been forwarded to the Speaker— (*Interruptions*) has failed to protect the Dalits. Three Dalits were killed in Badanbelu and about four persons in Nanjan Gud a few days back, and I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards it. I returned from Agra yesterday only. There is a locality named Naglagud in that city. A small peice of land of about one bigha and 15 biswa has been under the jurisdiction of Ambedkar Trust. Baba Sahib Ambedkar's birth anniversary is being celebrated at that place for the last about 20 to 25 years. I had been there on 2nd April last year, and Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will be surprised to know that on 18th of this month birth anniversary of Baba Sahib Ambedkar was again celebrated. But the very next day, a group of saints started raising the slogans of 'Jai Shri Ram'. Thereafter, under the leadership of the SSP of that area, personnel of PAC started drawing a demarcation line around that peice land and they Dalits were beaten mercilessly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Advisor to the Government Shri Goswami was there at that time you may witness his miserable condition as he sustained fractures in his hand as well as foot. A boy named Kanchan succumbed to injuries in hospital. Women were beaten mercilessly and houses were demolished. My submission to you is that it is a serious matter, the Central Government should take it seriously and keeping in view the incident and the manner in which the land of Dalits was grabbed under the force of PAC—the local administration, the local SSP should be suspended with immediate effect and a petition be filed against him under Prevention of Atrocities Act. The land grabbed by PAC should be taken back and given to Dalits. Besides, adequate compensation should be given to the families of those who lost their lives as also to those who were injured in the incident. It was due to this untoward incident in Mysore MP from that constituency had to resign. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs has already left. The Government had assured to give a statement to that effect in the House, however, no statement has been given so far. The present Government is incapable, it is anti-Dalits. It does not have a right to be in power any more. Therefore, either an immediate action should be taken or the Government should resign. This is what I demand from the Government.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the matter already raised by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. The bureaucracy has been functioning in an arbitrary manner since President's Rule has been imposed in Uttar Pradesh. (Interruptions)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Dalits have been the target of the feudal forces who dislike even to hear the name of Baba Sahib Ambedkar. Not only this, but the land under the jurisdiction of Baba Sahib Ambedkar trust at various places, is being grabbed forcibly and idols are being broken. Last time when the meeting of National Celebration Committee was held under the Chairmanship of the hon. Prime Minister, the

Government of Uttar Pradesh had admitted that Baba Sahib Ambedkar's idols were broken at various places, and that the Government had made a separate financial provision for the replacement of the idols broken. The question here is not that the Government replaced those broken idols, rather the matter of concern is that the practice of breaking the idols still persist. Dalits are still being attacked, and the incidents to this effect took place not at one place but at almost 5-6 places. It includes the cities like Kanpur, Jhansi, Agra etc. The matter was raised in the House itself, but neither any action was taken nor the culprits were punished. The result is that the Dalits all over the State are panic stricken.

My submission to you is that it is not the responsibility of the State Government only, so far as the matter of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is concerned, it is the responsibility of the Central Government and the Parliament. The Commissioners of the areas should report the atrocities committed on people of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, the incidents of forcible acquisition of land from them and killing them to the Government which in turn should present the same in the House.

The House should be informed about the action taken in this regard. Until the report is presented in the House and action is taken on it, such incidents will continue to happen. I apprehend that such incidents may increase as organised effort is being made. I, therefore, would like to request that the enquiry report should be submitted to the House.

SHRI KALKADAS (Karolbagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a serious matter related to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I fully agree with Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav and would like to appeal that the Government should pay serious attention towards this issue, so that such incidents do not recur.

SHRI SATYA NARAYAN JATIA (Ujjain): Mr. Speaker, Sir, atrocities on Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes are increasing in Madhya Pradesh also and there is no guarantee of security for these people. Recently, a preplanned murderous attack was made on the life of ex-MLA of Indore Shri Prakash Sonkar and his entire family was implicated in false criminal cases. Shri Sonkar is in hospital and no effort is being made to bring the absconding criminals to book. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are feeling very insecure in Madhya Pradesh today. I would like to request through you that this incident should be thoroughly investigated and full protection should be given to Shri Sonkar and his family and strict action taken against the culprits.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is a very grave.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: But the Government is not serious.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): This is a very serious matter. We support what has been said by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. There should be a judicial enquiry into this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Thorough investigation should be made and a statement should be given in the House. This is the hand work of those who have exploited and committed atrocities on lower castes for generations. Unfortunately, such people are there in the bureaucracy. Stringent punishments should be meted out to them. Prevention of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Act, was passed in this House. The Uttar Pradesh Government should immediately enforce this Act against the culprits and the police and revenue officials involved in this incident. I would request the Government to take immediate action in this case and a statement should be given in the House.

Shri Paswan has charged the Government of being ineffective and incapable. This is totally wrong. The Government is fully aware, answerable and responsible in this regard. No single person or party can claim to be the champion of the cause of these castes. The Congress Party has always protected them. I would like to request Shri Mukul Wasnik to assure the House and the Government should also issue a statement in this regard.

SHRIMATI CHANDRAPRABHA URS (Mysore): Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, for centuries, there was brotherhood and amity among the people of Mysore but unfortunately in the recent days, some people have taken to the path of confrontation. Some misunderstanding has cropped up between the local leaders, which is disturbing the atmosphere. To solve this.

[English]

I request the Government of India, the Home Minister to intervene in this matter and also put a word to the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka as both of them are responsible representatives of the people - one is a Member of Parliament and the other one is a Member of the Assembly. They should intervene and call the local leaders also to settle the issue amicably.

People in that area are always living in peaceful atmosphere. They are large-hearted and with cooperation they were all living together. The situation that has arisen is not only alarming out we are afraid that it may spread over to other areas. That should be stopped at once. The Centre should intervene and put a word to the State Government to call all the leaders and to see that the issue is amicably settled. The misunderstanding or the confrontation that is going on there should be stopped at once as the people in that area used to always live in peace. They want peace in that area. They coexisted in that area with cooperation and everything was going on smoothly but because of this situation some misunderstanding have been created. These aggressive assaults and the killings that

are going on there should be stopped at once. I request the Government through to intervene and put a word to the State Government to call the leaders of the various section and to settle this issue amicably. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, I call Shri Hannan Mollah.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, the Minister wants to say something.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, the Minister wants to intervene.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious problem.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mollah, are you speaking on the same issue pertaining to the assault on the Harijans or is it a different subject?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: No, Sir, it is a different subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If it is a different subject, you can speak afterwards. Now I call Kumari Uma Bharati.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): There is a serious constitutional problem. This is such a serious matter..

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Has he given the notice?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Please permit me. Because of the nature of the constitutional crisis that is facing us..

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We have raised this matter and the Minister wants to reply to it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Just a few days ago, we have discussed a similar constitutional issue pertaining to the Speaker of Manipur Assembly. Now once again, a crisis between the Legislature and the Executive has arisen.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall take up this issue afterwards. The issue pertaining to the assault on the Harijans has been raised. Three or four Members have aired their views and if one or two Members want to add to it, they can add to it. Afterwards, the hon. Minister will reply to those queries. Now I call Kumari Uma Bharati.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this issue is somewhat similar to the issue raised by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. This is a case of atrocity by police on some persons of scheduled castes. There was an allegation on two youths of Douria village in Chhatrapur district that they had snatched a gun from some person during the 1984 riots. That case was opened this year and on the basis of it, the Incharge of the police station of that area tortured those youths in police custody for 6-7 days. Their wives were also brought there and were beaten up naked in front of their husbands. They were even threatened of rape if their husbands did not accept that they had stolen the gun. In the end, those youths pleaded that they will end their lives and then, their wives were released. When this incident came to the notice of the District Collector, he ordered an enquiry into it and on its basis, the youths were hospitalised. During their medical examination, the Incharge of the police station, who was the main culprit, went to the hospital in civil dress and threatened them of dire consequences if any statement was given against him. He even slapped a person. The angry crowd attacked the inspector and he was beaten up by some people and was admitted to the Gwalior hospital. After

that, massive atrocities were committed in that village, particularly on the people belonging to scheduled castes and backward classes and even their women were not spared. The villagers had to flee from the village. Sir, when an hon. Member of Rajya Sabha, who is also a farmer raised this issue, the police personnel responsible for it were called to police lines. Even though a case had been registered against them, no action has been taken so far. Instead, several innocent villagers have been implicated in false cases and detained. They are still in the lock-up. Neither any enquiry is being conducted in this regard nor they are being released on bail, as the police is not showing the concerned diary. I would like to request the Government that it should direct the concerned officials for an immediate enquiry into this incident.

[English]

PROF. M. KAMSON (Outer Manipur): I am raising a very important issue not only of Manipur but.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you speaking on onslaught of Harijans?

PROF. M. KAMSON: On Manipur, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can speak afterwards.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, I had visited the place of incident and spoke to all the concerned parties. Regarding the pilgrimage of Nagli Sahib at Merrut, both the saints as well as the scheduled castes there claim it to be their own land. As a result there is tension. Negotiations are going on between the two groups. It is true there was some violence. I would like to submit that instead of giving this issue a political colour, it should be directly investigated by the C. B. I. and after the report comes, the Government should punish the guilty. No decision should be taken without the C. B. I.

investigation. This investigation is necessary to check the worsening of situation and its getting more vitiated.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): I respect the spontaneous outburst of sentiments of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav and other hon. Members. Whenever atrocities were committed on the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in any part of the country, strong sentiments were expressed both inside and outside the House. Several times, discussions were held on such issues in the House. It is right, as the hon. Member from Agra said that this incident should not be given a political colour. He has rightly said that some agreement is being reached there.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What is the meaning of agreement. The Government should make efforts in resolving the issue.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: I am saying that we should not try to draw political mileage. If this is done the situation becomes worse instead of improving.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: No political party should occupy the land owned by Scheduled Castes.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Ram Vilas ji, we are as much concerned about the welfare of Dalits and tribals as you and your party are concerned. So, it will not be right if doubts are expressed about the Government's action in this regard. I would like to assure the House that the hon. Home Minister will be informed about the strong feelings expressed here by the hon. Members.

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The Home

Minister will have to make a statement. We want a statement from the Home Minister.

make a statement?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Also the action taken against all those people who are responsible for this, including the officers of the UP Government should come in the statement.

SHRIMUKUL WASNIK: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have just told Shri Ram Vilas Paswan something and I would like to repeat the same that the swiftness with which the matter has been raised by him..

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The land owned by Scheduled Castes has been grabbed there.

[*English*]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: I would only like to submit that the Home Minister will be made aware of the sentiments expressed here by the hon. Members.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: May I know whether the Government will make a statement or not. I know that you are sincere; but what about the Home Ministry?

KUMARI UMABHARATI: No reply has been given regarding the issue of Madhya Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Whenever any issue related to the scheduled castes is raised here, the Government gives the stock reply that the Home Minister will be informed.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no reply has been given in regard to Madhya Pradesh. (*Interruptions*)

We are not aware of the action taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs or Ministry of Welfare. Therefore, we would like to know as to whether the hon. Minister of Home Affairs will give a reply to it or not? An hon. Member of Parliament from Karnataka has said that three 'Dalits' have been killed in Badanbel and some in Nanjanguda. This has been said by the hon. Member from that area..

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this matter should be handed over to the CBI..

[*English*]

He has resigned the Member of Parliament seat.

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am raising the same issue raised by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and Kumari Uma Bharati. I am referring to particularly both the States. Shri Mukul Wasnik has expressed his personal view point. But I would like to say that there is President's Rule in both the States—Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. When they say that there is President's Rule in those States. The Government becomes more responsible for that as no Legislative Assemblies are in existence there. Therefore, the Minister of Home Affairs should make a statement in this regard. He should also make a statement about the incident occurred in Mysore as it is an issue concerning Dalits. Thus, I would like to urge Shri Mukulji that he should ask the Minister of Home Affairs to give a statement in this regard because there is President's Rule in both the States. It is the direct responsibility of the Central Government. It should give a statement as there

[*Translation*]

Why the Government does not reply to it in the Parliament.

[*English*]

May I know whether the Government will

are no Legislative Assemblies in both the States..(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a reply should be given in regard to Madhya Pradesh. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What is the reply from the Government? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: He has already said that the Home Minister will give a statement. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: He has not told that. You are not the Minister. Why are you saying that? Let him say that the Home Minister will make a statement. Let him say that again. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir, I would like to repeat once again that at this point of time, I would only like to say that whatever feelings have been expressed by the hon. Members, those feelings will be conveyed to the Home Minister. As far as the issue which has been raised by the hon. Member, Shri Rabi Ray is concerned, that Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are under the President's Rule and therefore, the Union Government is more responsible as far as these two States are concerned, I would like to say that wherever atrocities have been committed, whether it was in a State which is under the President's Rule or any other State, those matters have been raised here and the Government has always been equally responsible. So, it is not the question of some States having the President's Rules and others not having. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Mukul Wasnik, what they want to know is, would the Government come forward with a statement or not.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIBUTASINGH (Jalore): Sir, I need your ruling. I rise to seek your indulgence. I want your ruling on this subject. Hon. Minister has said that he will very honestly convey the feelings of the House to the hon. Home Minister, as if the Home Minister has no channel with this House. The State of Uttar Pradesh is under the President's Rule and this Parliament, to an extent, functions as the Legislative Assembly for UP also. Therefore, direct responsibility devolves on the Home Minister of India, to come to this House and *suo motu*, make a statement on the happenings like the one which Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has just now raised.

Therefore, I want a ruling from you. that if this Parliament is discharging the duty of the Legislative Assembly of the Uttar Pradesh also, is it not incumbent on the Home Minister of India to come with a *suo motu* statement on the issue like this? I need your ruling on this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can you come with a statement, on any other day?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIBUTA SINGH: Sir, I want a ruling from you. I do not want the Minister's statement. I want a ruling from you. Sir, You must give a ruling. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The Chair has power to direct the Home Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIBUTA SINGH: The States are under President's rule. To that extent, this Parliament owes the responsibility to the people of those States. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Members in this House are very much disturbed because of atrocities against the Harijans in this country. The Government also has heard it. The Government will definitely apply its mind and respond to the demand of this House.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I believe Mr. Mukul Wasnik has sincerely said that the Government will make efforts to see that such things did not take place.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think, at this stage, let us leave it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, the whole House is of the view that the Government should make a statement. *(Interruptions)*

What is the ruling from the Chair?
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has very sincerely heard you. He will convey the matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He will come forward with the necessary information to this House.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now let us go to the next item.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): What objection the Minister of Home Affairs has on giving a statement in this regard? He should give a statement on the subject. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): I would like to know as to whether the Central Government will give a statement in this regard? *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have

ventilated your grievances. The Government has also heard it. The Government will definitely respond to it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Sir, the situation in Manipur is very alarming. I have contacted the Chief Minister and the Chief Secretary of the State. More than 40 persons, including women and children, have been killed. And more than 300 persons, including women and children, have been injured because of riots that broke out between Manipuri Meiteis and Muslims. It is a very alarming situation.

It is not only the case of Manipur but it concerns the whole country. I have raised this issue about Manipur many times in this House. Sometimes I mentioned it even though I knew that it was out of place. Now, the situation has become very serious. The number of deaths has been increasing. According to my information, it might go beyond 60. The immediate cause of the riots is insurgency among the different communities. Unfortunately, this has happened. But as a matter of fact, the Manipuri Meiteis and the Muslims have been maintaining communal harmony and good relations although they are different communities. They have lived in the State as brothers and sisters.

They have been maintaining the communal harmony now for a long time but suddenly this unfortunate incident has happened. While replying to the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Home Minister assured that paramilitary forces will be sent there and weapons will be provided but so far it has not been done. I contacted the Chief Minister of the State. He wanted the Central Government to send immediate relief to the State. Otherwise the situation will worsen. The situation at the moment is very tense there. Unless CRPF and paramilitary forces are sent there, the situation will not improve. At the moment the forces there are not prepared to fight the insurgency. They say that they are still

training their constables in this regard. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to rush the CRPF personnel there so that the situation can be dealt with immediately. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, it is pertaining to the State of Manipur. They have been deprived of the opportunity.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already spoken. The time is very short.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice that 18 thousand students have not received letters. It is an issue related to the fate of 18000 students. I may be given a chance to express my view point.

PROF. M. KAMSON (Outer Manipur): Sir, as my colleague, Shri Yaima Singh has mentioned, yesterday sudden riot broke out in the two districts of Manipur, Imphal and Thoubal in which about 60 people have been killed and more than 300 people have been injured and hospitalised. All this happened within a few hours of the riot. The riot took place in the city just because of a rumour which was spread by some persons. I would say that this riot did not confine to the city alone; it has some international ramifications. It appears that the hand of some outside country is also involved in this. The paramilitary forces and the police forces are not adequate to control the situation. At the moment the curfew is imposed in the entire city.

Secondly, Sir, I would like to tell you..

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All the points have been covered by Shri Y. Singh. No point has been left by him and, therefore, you need not repeat the points made by him.

PROF. M. KAMSON: No, Sir, I am not repeating. I am giving more information. In the hill areas there is ethnic violence between the Nagas and Kukis insurgent. They are not killing each other but they are killing the genral public So far about 100 people have been killed and 700 houses have been burnt out affecting about 30 villages and rendering 1 0,000 people homeless. For that there is not belief given bY the State Government because the Manipur Government is facing the financial crisis due to Rs. 70 crores of overdraft of the previous Government. So, the financial crisis is coming in the way of relief work. So, immediately the armed force, should be sent from the Centre and also some relief money out of the Prime Minister's Relief Fund should be sent to the State of Manipur.

I would like to inform the House that the UNPO (Unrepresented Nations and Peoples based at the Hague and functioning as a Mini-UNO for struggling nations) which is like a mini-UNO, the MSCN very recently as a State insurgency. They have got an impact on it. We expect that some more forces from other countries like Burma and from our neighbouring States are coming to our State which is a great threat to the nation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. (*Interruptions*)

12.56 hrs.

RE: POWERS OF THE CHIEF
ELECTION COMMISSIONER UNDER THE
CONSTITUTION.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: As the House is aware, Elections are due for Rajya Sabha: several constituencies of Lok Sabha and also for some Legislatures. Now, a big question mark hangs over all these elections. There is a dispute now arisen between the Executive and

the Legislature; between the Legislature and a Constitutional authority and between the Constitutional authority and the Judiciary. The problem has become very acute and once again we are entering into a crisis situation regarding this Constitutional problem.

The problem had arisen because of this. One Constitutional authority, the Chief Election Commissioner, it seems, has acted in a manner which is not satisfying to the rest of the arms of polity, that is neither to the judiciary nor to the Legislature and nor to the Executive.

The Chief Minister of Haryana has said, what is happening; why should Kalka election be postponed. That matter has gone to the Court and the judiciary has opined against the judgement of the Chief Election Commissioner.

A Minister from West Bengal, who is already there in the Council of Ministers at the Centre - if there are no elections held for Rajya Sabha from West Bengal - may not be elected. Therefore, this crisis has to be sorted out immediately. The Parliament must take a view as to how this crisis can be resolved. Some kind of a discussion with the Executive and the Legislatures by mainly involving the Chief Election Commissioner, has to be undergone. Otherwise, we will be in a crisis.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, election is an essential part of our Parliamentary democracy. If elections are not being held, if no dates are announced and if the vacancies are allowed to remain unfilled because that authority thinks that he can decide everything he likes in India - because, according to him, he is above constitution - then how will this Parliament function; the Parliamentary democracy function and the Constitution function? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): A very pertinent question has been raised which has far reaching consequences.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They quietly tell me to raise this and they keep quiet themselves. Sir, this is the position. What is this? (*Interruptions*) This is a serious matter. Something has to be done. The Prime Minister cannot just sit and watch it silently.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: This is a very serious question and has very far reaching consequences. No authority under the Constitution can take it upon himself.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Sir, Monopoly Cotton Procurement Scheme under the Maharashtra Raw-Cotton (Procurement, Processing and Marketing) Act, 1971, is in operation in Maharashtra State for the last 20 years and validity of this scheme was last extended for three years viz. upto 30th June, 1993.

Remedial measures and improvements in the scheme are constantly carried out. In view of the excellent performance of the scheme during the three seasons of the last extended period and the scheme being able to operate without any financial difficulties while assuring graded and quality cotton both to the domestic and international markets and also in the continued interest of the cotton growers, it is now absolutely necessary to extend the validity of the Act for a further period of five years.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Bansal, what happens if there is so much disturbance? Everybody cannot hear the views of different parties. This is one example.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, a very important issue has been raised by Shri Nirmal Kant Chatterjee and Shri Somnath Chatterjee. I am little worried because a statement which is purported to have been made by the Chief Election Commissioner, has been published in one of the dailies of Delhi.

The Election Commissioner had said that he

is the supreme authority; he cannot be controlled by the President, by the Governor, by the Chief Minister or by the Prime Minister. If his wishes are not carried, he will not allow any elections to be held. I do not know. I have great respect for the Office of the Chief Election Commissioner. But it will be a mini furore if this is accepted by the House and by the Government. I do not know how this situation can continue for a long time. This is the most objectionable statement that has come from a constitutional authority.

13.00 hrs.

The Parliament will be failing in its duty not to take note of it. I shall urge upon you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the Government should immediately take up this matter and the House should come to some conclusion because the whole Constitution cannot be paralysed because of the fancies and whims of a particular individual. I have got nothing to say against the individual, but the office and such an important office should not be abused in this manner.

It is not only in this case, whether it is West Bengal Government, whether it is Karnataka, whether it is Haryana or anybody or individual, he wants the supreme authority to dismiss any bureaucrat anywhere in the country; he wants anybody to follow his order without any objection. So, when the Cabinet Secretary cannot claim that authority because there is a certain process; but the Chief Election Commissioner thinks that he has the supreme authority to suspend, dismiss, castigate or do anything to anybody including bureaucrats, Ministers, Chief Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, Prime Minister. This situation is totally unacceptable and the Government and the Parliament should come to some conclusion. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roserai): We have given a notice of impeachment against the Chief Election Commissioner. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On the same subject. Mr. Bansal is on his legs.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Under the Constitution, every authority has to work within the prescribed parameters. Now, here is a case that has come to our notice where one higher authority under the Constitution has come to entertain a feeling that particular authority is above every other authority, whether it be the President of India or even the court, including the Supreme Court.

We feel, in one case, only three days back, the functions which legitimately vest with the High Court were sought to be assumed by the Chief Election Commissioner. Whether a particular act during the course of an election is a case of bribery or unfair practices or not, is for the court to entertain and adjudicate upon not for the Chief Election Commissioner.

Next to that, comes out this threat which has been held out today; and before that, in a given case, the Chief Election Commissioner went to the extent of terming the report of the Chief Electoral Officer, as a rubbish; such intemperate language, we do not expect from an authority as high as the Chief Election Commissioner. And as we have all said, it is not against a particular officer; but if a particular officer occupies that important position comes to entertain that feeling, we must sit up and try to find out as to what has gone wrong there and how that can be rectified. No authority, no Parliament, no legislature can be held to ransom; and that is the situation that is developing in the country today for which we have got to take action. The sooner we do that and the sooner that authority gets to know that it has to function within a particular parameter, the better it would be for everybody. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Rangarajan Kumaramangalam.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Guman Mal Lodha will be the last speaker.

My request is that at the stroke of 12, the Question Hour comes to an end; at the stroke of

One, the Zero Hour should come to an end.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): The Ministers should respond.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): It is an important matter. Article 329, clause 2 of the Constitution makes it very clear that once the election process starts, nobody can interfere, not even the Supreme Court, not even the High Court, not even the Chief Election Commissioner, and the only remedy is after the election is over, an election petition can be filed.

During the last few months, this has been contravened not once but repeatedly by the Chief Election Commissioner. Therefore, it is a very serious matter, irrespective of what he has said regarding the executive, regarding the politicians, regarding the press, regarding the media; that apart, a very serious position arises; and in Punnuswamy's case, way back in 1952, the Supreme Court, an apex court of this country, has said in turn that no interference can be made during the process of an election. Therefore, the Chief Election Commissioner must be asked thus far and no further; thus far and no further he must be told that this House is of the view that his activities cannot be further extended.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapure): I am afraid that there appears to be some confusion. Most of the hon. Members are saying that they are not saying anything about the particular individual or person, who is holding that office. We should not be bothered about the personal remarks or the personal nuances of a particular individual, I agree. But the point is that in the Constitution the powers and functions given to the Chief Election Commissioner are such that if any particular individual wants to act in a particular way which we consider to be arbitrary or offensive, he can do it. If you want solution, you will have to go for an amendment of the Constitution in respect of powers and functions of the Chief Election Commission.

What Shri Lodha has said is quite correct.

From the time and in relation to a particular election, once a notification is issued and upto the time the results are announced, in that intervening period he is the supreme constitutional authority.

Now somebody may abuse that position and carry it to an extreme and do all kinds of peculiar things. The point is you cannot challenge his action until the process of election is over. Therefore, in this particular case we are having a number of instances and examples where people are getting provoked and irritated because of the behaviour of a particular person. At the same time you say that we are not concerned about the particular person. These two are contradictory stands.

Under this constitutional power which he has got, he cannot be challenged during the pendency of election proceedings. Now this is carried to an extent, Sir. If it is carried to an extent, in any case where the election itself cannot be held, the election process itself is subverted due to certain orders and actions of the Chief Election Commissioner, then what is to be done?

Now in a particular State the election may not be held because there is no Chief Electoral Officer in that State. Then how can election be held? I do not think we can settle this issue by this kind of discussion here. We have to go into it more deeply. The constitutional provision may require to be looked into again because if this kind of supreme authority is given to a person and you cannot challenge him until the entire election process is over, then there is always the danger. We can apprehend that a particular person may use that power in a particular way at his own discretion. Therefore, how can you get over this question, unless you are prepared to say that these supreme and unlimited arbitrary powers should be cut down or reduced in some way. That would require a constitutional amendment. It cannot be done in this casual way here, by making a few observations. (*Interruptions*)

Impeachment is all right. We tried for an impeachment against the Chief Election Commissioner last year and nothing came out of it uptill now. I do not want to go into what happened and I do not want to go into what was told to us. We want in deputation to the Prime Minister on two or three occasions with that petition for impeachment and we were told not to proceed with it because arrangement would be made and the cause for grievances would be removed. But nothing was done or could not be done, whatever it is.

Therefore, now, either you impeach a man like that or you go in for some constitutional amendment, otherwise you cannot challenge any action of his under the present constitutional provision. He is the supreme authority. He can do anything he likes. What is the use of discussing this in that case.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, which has been raised by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, we have been the worst affected by the issue. I am not discussing the man about whom a discussion has taken place. But I am discussing about the arbitrary action taken by a constitutional authority. The Janata Dal has been the worst sufferer of it. Shri Chandra Shekharji has just spoken. The appointment was made during his regime. One can not understand a Police atrocity unless one becomes the victim of it. The same thing is happening here: The Janata Dal alone has been suffering. Today every party is suffering because of it. The people belonging to ruling party are also observing the arbitrary action being taken by him. Some days ago, we as well as Shri Ram Vilas Paswan had raised it in the House. As far as office of the profit is concerned, constitutional posts are not included in office of profit. Shri Vidyacharan Shukdaji has said that it was not so. He can contest elections without tendering resignation. Constitutional Authority Office of profit does not included. There are some shortcomings in the constitutions, which maybe

removed. I fully support the statement made by Shri Indrajit Gupta that such an issue should be resolved through passing the Constitution amendment or impeachment motion that is lying pending here. I would like to request you to expedite it immediately and take up it as per the rules. Every Member is realising the situation prevailing in the House. I have nothing to say. We have been deprived of our symbol even. We have suffered a lot.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Balai): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Nitish Kumar has referred to my name. every body commits a mistake. I have also committed a mistake in appointing such a person but... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has not taken any objection. In the usual course it is being done. He has made no allegation.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I say that Shri Nitish Kumar mentioned my name, that I appointed a particular person in a particular position. Every person, every individual is capable of committing mistakes. My assessment about that individual was not correct. I have no shame in accepting it. But as Shri Indrajit Gupta has said, a situation has come when this House should find a way out to get rid of this person and the safest course is, that he should be impeached. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore): This is a very very important question which concerns the entire democratic system of our country. We have about four States which are likely to go to the polls and if this kind of a situation is allowed to continue, as Shri Indrajit Gupta has mentioned, the remedy lies in some kind of a constitutional amendment. That will be too far and it will be too late. By that time the institution of the Legislative Assembly, Parliament will be jeopardised by the actions of such individuals. Therefore, I request, through you and through this House to the Government, that they should come,

immediately in this session itself, with some kind of an amendment which will bridge the situation till a proper constitutional amendment is made. Therefore, I request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to kindly apply his mind. This case is also *sub judice*. As Shri Guman Mal Lodha has just now mentioned, in 1979, I remember, in the case of *Mohinder Singh Gill*, in a parliamentary election, the Supreme Court has held that once the notification is issued, nobody could touch the process, including the Chief Election Commissioner. If this is the situation, I do not know why this issue is being taken from one court to the other. This process must be allowed to be completed without any intervention. This is my suggestion.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, an Impeachment motion against the Chief Elections Commissioner was given by 130 Members of Parliament about one and a half year ago I would like to request the Treasury Benches to cooperate with 130 Members of Opposition and give their consent in passing the Motion. We also met with the Prime Minister in this regard. The House should pass the Impeachment Motion and remove the Chief Election Commissioner.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us not have a debate on this. You have expressed your opinion. It is about 1.15 p.m. now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How long do you want to drag on this Zero Hour? Please let me know. Those who could not get any opportunity should also avail of this opportunity.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Could this go on up to 1.30 or two o'clock? Zero Hour should have

a meaning. All the issues cannot be discussed here.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK (Sonepat): Sir, I want to say only one thing. The whole House seems to be one on this issue. I want to say that this person, the Chief Election Commissioner, can create any problem. Even on the last day of the election, he can stop the process. The elections have to be held in four States. On the last day, he can say: "No, I stop it." The parliamentary election also has to be held. He can say: "No."...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This point has been expressed by many Members.

SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK: Sir, he can create any constitutional problems. He must be set right at this point. Otherwise, there will be many problems...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this august House has the consensus on this issue. All are agree to it, therefore, the motion of impeachment against the Chief Election Commissioner may kindly be admitted. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not break the rules, which you have framed.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): According to the Order of the Director General, Central Industrial Security Forces have been withdrawn from the Haldia fertilizer Unit under the Hindustan fertilizer Corporation...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, he is raising a different issue...(*Interruptions*)

SHRISUDHIR GIRI: The withdrawal of the CISF from the Fertilizer installation has left the unit unguarded. There is a storage of hazardous substance like ammonia. These are dangerous for the human lives. I urge upon the Government to redeploy the CISF in the Heldia fertilizer Unit. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we shall go to the regular business. Papers to be laid on the Table.

13.16 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE.

[English]

Review on the Working of and Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi for the year 1991-92, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92

(ii) A copy of the Annual accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions)

showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library See No. LT 3989/93)

Review on the Working of and Annual Report of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library See No. LT 3990/93)

Notification under Essential Commodities Act, 1955

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) second (Amendment) Order, 1993

(Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No.S.O.98(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 1993 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(Placed in Library See No. LT 3991/93)

Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the NTPC and the Ministry of Powers, Review on the Working of and Annual Report of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMUKUL WASNIK): On behalf of Shri P. V. Rangayya Naidu, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Power, Government of India (Hindi and English versions).

(Placed in Library See No. LT 3992/93)

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and

Auditor General thereon.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English version) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

(Placed in Library See No. LT 3993/93)

Review on the working of and Annual Reports of the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, Visva Bharati, Shantiniketan for the year 1991-92, etc.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, along with Audited accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 3994/93)

(3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Visva-Bharati, Shantiniketan, for the year 1991-92, together with Audit Report thereon.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 3995/93)

(5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and

[Kumati Selja]

Audit Report thereon.

English versions) of the Banaras Hindu University (Volumes I and II) for the year ended the 31st March, 1992, together with Audit Report thereon.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 3996/93)

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, for the year 1991-92.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, for the year 1991-92.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

(9) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, for the year 1991-92, together with Audit Report thereon.

(10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 3997/93)

(11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1991-92

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1991-92, together with

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1991-92.

(12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 3998/93)

(13) (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, along with Audited accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92

(14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 3999/93)

(15) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

(ii) Annual Report of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

(Placed in Library. See No. LT 4000/93)

(17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the University of Delhi for the year 1991-92 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year.

(Placed in Library. See No. LT 4001/93)

13.17 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA.

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Cine-Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1993, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th April, 1993, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendation and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(Interruptions)

13.17½ hrs.

RE: POWERS OF THE CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER UNDER THE CONSTITUTION-Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister wanted to speak and his reply must come. (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): The entire House is unanimous, the reply must be come from the Government. (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Does the Government want to respond? (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: The entire house is unanimous. The entire House is in favour of the impeachment motion. The reaction of the Government must come and your ruling also should come. The entire House is unanimous. (Interruptions)

All the hon. Members of all sides urge that the impeachment motion which has already been given against the attitude of the Chief Election Commission should be admitted. (Interruptions)

13.18 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table). (Interruptions)

13.18½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS SIXTH REPORT

[English]

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, I beg to present the Sixth report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

13.19 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FIRST AND SECOND REPORT

[English]

SHRI DEBI PRASAD PAL (Calcutta North West): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports:

[Shri Debi Prasad Pal]

confusion in the House.

(Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance:-

(Interruptions)

(1) First Report on Demands for Grants (1993-94) of the Ministry of Finance.

13.21 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT FIRST REPORT AND MINUTES

(2) Second Report on Demands for Grants (1993-94) of the Ministry of Planning & Programme Implementation. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

13.20 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav and some other went back to their seats

SHRI PRATAPRAOB. BHONSLE (Satara): Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural development on demands for Grants (1993-94) of Ministry of Rural Development and the minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is ready to respond to your point. As we have already proceeded ahead with the Agenda items and since only two or three items are there, we will complete them. afterwards, the Hon. Minister will respond.

13.21½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FIRST REPORT

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us not disrupt it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wanted to respond. Let him respond. *(Interruptions)*. This is a very serious issue. Let the hon. Minister respond.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the First Report of the Departmental Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants (1993-94) in respect of the Department of Education.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, after the formal Business of the House is over within two or three minutes, I will respond. Let the papers be Laid. Afterwards, I will say something. *(Interruptions)*

STATEMENT BY MINISTERS

(i) De-Central of Malasses and Alcohol

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): Sir, The Government have been regulating the prices and distribution of molasses and alcohol under the Molasses Control Order, 1961 and

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let there be no

Ethyl Alcohol (Price Control) Order, 1971 respectively. Both these orders were issued under Section 18 G of the Industries (Development and Regulations) Act, 1951. The policy relating to molasses and alcohol was under review for some time and it was felt that excessive regulation of their allocation and prices were the main constraints impeding the dynamic growth of this Sector. The current atmosphere of liberalisation offered a good opportunity for this important industrial sector to come into its own. The Government have, therefore, decided to rescind both the Molasses Control Order, 1961 and the Ethyl Alcohol (Price Control) Order, 1971.

In order to prevent diversion of molasses for manufacture of additional quantity of potable alcohol, the Government has also decided to continue the policy of ban on creation of additional capacity or expansion of the existing capacity for manufacture of or distillation of alcoholic drinks based on molasses.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Minister, what steps are you going to take to ensure that a part of the huge profits that these people are going to get will actually go to the people who are supplying the cane to the factories?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Tomorrow, after Question Hour, I am having a meeting with the Members of Parliament and we will work it out.

13.22 hrs.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SAFAI KARAMCHARIS BILL *

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to constitute a National

Commission for Safai Karamcharis and to provide for matters connected there with or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to constitute a National Commission for Safai Karamcharis and to provide for matters connected there with or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: I introduce the Bill.

13.23 hrs.

SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL *

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved:

"The leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954".

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, I have given a notice for this. There are some inherent defects in this Bill, that has been introduced by him. I have seen the Bill. It postulates that the signing of the Register daily is a requirement for getting the daily allowance. The problem is that during holidays, Saturdays and Sundays. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I want to say something on this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a point of order.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, Mr. Nirmal Kanti Cahatterjee is a very senior Member of Parliament. He is aware that at the stage of the introduction of the Bill this is not the sort of objection that is taken up. He is aware of this and simultaneously he is also aware that in one way is the jurisdiction of this House affected by what he is saying and therefore, it is not fair to raise this point. So, he does have a point of view, it needs to be looked into; that is fair. But this is not the time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The point of order raised by Mr. Kumaramangalam is upheld.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954."

The Motion was Adopted

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

13.26 hrs.

RE: POWERS OF THE CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER UNDER THE CONSTITUTION

[*English*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Now, Vidyacharan Shukla ji may respond.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, on this matter of Election Commission the anxiety of the House can be well understood. And we have been following the various statements that have come and the various views that have been expressed with regard to this matter. You know, Sir, that this matter has also gone to the court. The Haryana-Punjab High Court have given a certain judgement against which the Election Commission has gone to the Supreme Court.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): They have given a stay order.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: We are keeping the entire matter under our observation. Hon. Members belonging to the Opposition Parties also had mentioned this matter to us. Yesterday we had a brief discussion on this matter and I can assure you that we will constantly keep a watch over the development. (*Interruptions*). And we cannot take a view or announce anything without going deep into the matter, but I can assure you one thing that whatever we will do will be in keeping with the sentiments of the Members here and nobody in the country is above the Parliament or above the Constitution. They have to be working under the control of the Constitution and under the control of the two Houses of Parliament.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): After the Statement of the Minister, I demand the resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner. The Chief Election Commissioner with all dignity of the office and propriety should resign now after the Statement of the Minister.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members of the Left Front and the National Front visited the hon. Prime Minister three or four times in connection with the impeachment motion against the Chief Election Commissioner, then hon. Prime Minister has stated-

[English]

"Leave it to me, I will do that. How I will do that, leave it to me."

[Translation]

There were his words: Leave it to me, and he has been avoiding it for one and a half year. The impeachment motion is lying pending in the House even today. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister of Parliamentary affairs that keeping in view the sentiments of all the hon. Members, there is no other alternative, the impeachment motion may kindly be passed through consensus and the Chief Election Commissioner be removed. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matter under Rule 377.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let there not be any debate. It is not fair on our part to drag on the Zero Hour for such a long time.

SHRIM. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, when the by-election is going on in Tamil Nadu, he should not meddle or disrupt the by-election which is going on in Tamil Nadu. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Janarthanan, you wanted a response from the hon. Minister, the Minister has also responded to your request. Let us now go for Matters under Rule 377.

13.29½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(i) Need to clear Pamba-Achankoil Vaigai River link Project of Tamil Nadu

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN (Ramanathapuram): Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu is the most backward drought

prone area. Drinking water scarcity is the major problem as subsoil water in most of the area is saline. Due to frequent failure of monsoon, most of the land remains dry and agriculture normally fail. National Water Development Agency has taken up 23 water balance studies in India. Pamba-Achankoil Vaigai river link is one among those studies. If this project is implemented about 700 million cubic metres of water can be diverted towards Tamil Nadu. The project cost is around Rs.700 crores. This will help in irrigation of one lakh hectare of land in Tamil Nadu and provide 17 MW electricity benefit to Kerala.

In view of the backwardness of the district, I request the Central Government to finalise this project immediately. I further request that World Bank loan may be sought for speedy implementation of the project.

(ii) Need to amend the Constitution to make provisions for providing reservation in Government jobs to other backward classes in proportion to their population

SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the population of other backward Classes constitute 52 per cent of the total population of India. The population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constitute 22 per cent of the total population of India. The reservation of jobs to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes has been rightly made in proportion to their population, that is, 22 per cent. But surprisingly, the reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) has been made 27 per cent which is not in proportion to their population. This is thus an anomaly.

The people of Other Backward Classes, sans the creamy layer are socially oppressed and economically depressed. They are half-naked, semi-starved and illiterates.

In these circumstances, I urge upon the Union Government to suitably amend the

[Sh. P.P. Kaliaperumal]

provisions of the Constitution of India which stands in the way to reserve Government jobs in proportion to their population so as to render social justice to the people of Other Backward Classes.

(iii) Need to clear the pending power projects of Kerala State

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, Kerala State faces a lot of difficulties with regard to power. The State does not get enough power to meet even the domestic demands. Low voltage and power cut have become common features. In order to find a solution to this problem, the Government of Kerala have submitted many schemes for the consideration of the Central Government. The Thermal Power Station at Kayamkulam, the Pooyankutty Hydro-electric Project, Brahmapuzha, Diesel Projects at Kasargod and Calicut are some of the important projects among them. Most of these projects still remain on paper either because of the objections from the Department of Environment or because of unresolved problem regarding foreign aid.

I would, therefore, request the Union Government to sanction these projects so that construction work could be started during the current financial year itself. I would also request the Government to get foreign aid from Japan for the Thermal Power Project at Kayamkulam.

(iv) Need to solve the problems of people displaced due to construction of Tehri Dam in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the demand to rehabilitate the displaced persons of Tehri Dam in Uttar Pradesh.

Since their demands have been lying pending for a long period, the people displaced due to construction of Tehri Dam have gone on fast unto death since the 23rd February.

In order to make the construction of the Dam successful, the people of 105 villages in its vicinity were displaced and rehabilitated in Pathri, Raiwala and Banjarwala villages in 1979. Moreover, 750 families of 14 revenue villages were displaced in Bhaniwala. The displaced persons say that no facility has been provided to them even after so many years. The land given to them for their cultivation is stony and unfit for cultivation. They had been promised to provide land for schools, colleges by the Tehri Water Development Corporation, but they did not get any land.

The displaced people were granted 1500 acres of land at the rate of Rs. 4,000 per acre. The amount of Rs. 4,000 (per acre) was given for irrigation on purposes. The each displaced person was promised to provide 2 acres irrigable land and a plot of 200 square yards for houses, building, but they have not been given any land as yet.

The Government had ordered the Tehri Development Corporation to ensure job for one member of each of the affected families. It was assured that 750 persons would be provided employment. But only 25 persons have been given employment so far.

I, therefore, request that the proposed amenities should be given to the people displaced due to construction of Tehri Dam in Hill Area with immediate effect so that the people may have some relief and lead their life properly.

(v) Need to provide financial assistance to the Bihar Government for reopening of Ashok Paper Mill in Darbhanga Parliamentary Constituency

SHRI MOHAMMED ASHRAF ALI FATMI (Darbhanga): Sir, Ashok Paper Mill in my

Darbhangā Parliamentary Constituency has been lying closed for several years causing adverse affect on the livelihood of thousands of families. The State Government is trying to reopen it, but now it is not in a position to invest adequate amount of funds in it. The repairing of outdated machinery, the payment of arrears of electricity bills, strengthening the proper arrangement of railway live upto the factory and payment of the outstanding dues of Banking and Financial Institutions amounting to Rs. 70 crore in total, are yet to be done. The demand of paper in the country is very high.

I, therefore, would like to urge the Central Government to grant central aid to restart the Ashok Paper Mill in Darbhanga.

(vi) Need to treat 'SAARA' community of Orissa as Scheduled Tribe

[English]

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK (Bhubaneswar): Sir, although the Saaras of Orissa belong to Scheduled Tribes it is not mentioned in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act of 1976 as a result they are deprived of the benefit meant for Scheduled Tribes. In No. 59 of the serial category of the tribes, it is mentioned as Saoria, Savar, Savru, Sahara. Although Savar and Saara are the same but the officials do not recognise it. In spite of repeated representations to no steps seem to have been taken by the Central Government. But the tribal people of 'Saara' continue to suffer.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to make necessary corrections and instruct the Orissa Government to treat the Saara tribe as a Scheduled Tribe.

(vii) Need to review the decision to provide land belonging to Kandla Port Trust to Cargill Multinational Company for preparation of salt

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur): Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, had started his

Dandi March in 1930 from the Sabamati Ashram in Gujarat to launch his salt Satyagrah and he had got success too. But today despite the protest from Kandla Port Trust, the Gujarat Government has decided to provide 15 thousand acres of land belonging to Kandla Port Trust in Gujarat to one of the greatest American Multi-National Companies Cargill to produce salt. Today, more than two lakh people of the country are employed in salt industry. With the producing of salt by the Cargill Company, all the labourers would be rendered jobless.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to cancel the decision of granting 15 thousand acres of land belonging to Kandla Port Trust to U.S. Cargill Company in the interest of the nation.

(viii) Need to regularise services of seasonal Khalasis working under Eastern Rivers Circle, Central Water Commission, Bhubaneswar, Orissa

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Sir, I draw the attention of the Central Government regarding agitation of 246 seasonal Khalasis working under Eastern Rivers Circle, Central Water Commission, Bhubaneswar for their regularisation of service.

The seasonal Khalasis in Central Water Commission are normally offered five or six months engagement in every year. But in the Eastern River Circle, Bhubaneswar only 89 days, work was provided and thereafter out of 246 seasonal Khalasis, 121 were offered engagement for 7 to 17 days on daily wage basis. It indicates that work is there but the Department desires to get the job done paying only daily wages. This is discriminatory and exploitive and unfair labour practice. Many of the Khalasis have been engaged as seasonal Khalasis for more than 20 years and gathered experience in assisting the flood forecasting and other works done in the Central Water Commission. The

[Dr. Kartikeswar Patra]

workers have been doing the job with the expectation of regularisation of their services. Most of them have crossed the age bar to be considered for getting regular service in other departments. The authorities instead of regularising these workers are filling the regular vacancies by bringing personnel on transfer from other circles and denying them the right of regular employment. This process also eats away the scope of getting regular service by seasonal Khalasis of this circle.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to regularise the services of seasonal Khalasis working under the Eastern Rivers Circle, Central Water Commission, Bhubaneswar.

(ix) Need to clarify the criteria for including new castes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderaba): The Hon. Minister of Welfare has made a statement that about 100 castes will be included in the List of Scheduled Castes and Tribes. This will be a danger unless the basis of recognition of these castes is clearly enunciated and the criteria are free from any ambiguity.

The Constituent Assembly had evolved various principles, criteria and norms for recognition of various castes for inclusion in the SC/ST Lists by constituting a sub-committee headed by Sardar Vallabhai Patel. The fundamental sine qua non for recognising any caste were the criteria of untouchability and social inequality. These two qualities formed the sole reasoning of the entire matter. The members of any caste were removed from the normal pattern of social activity by the larger social elite proved to be a sound reasoning for identifying that caste as either SC or ST.

An example of arbitrary recognition of such castes is that of the Mochi community of Gujarat. In fact, this cobbler community is affluent with a

wealthy standing in society. From another point of view, we find that a particular caste in one State is not included in the same category as in another States. There is a move even to bring the Christians under this ambit.

I would request the Hon. Minister of Welfare to make a statement in the House clarifying the criteria, norms and basis for selecting the castes for inclusion of the 100 castes a new under SC/ST. A thorough discussion on the subject on the floor of the Parliament is needed to review and analyse the basic roots of this concept. I also suggest that a Commission be formed to review the socio-economic backwardness of the castes identified for this purpose and arrive at a common denominator for all the new entires without any chance for discrimination or favour.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for Lunch and we will meet once again at 2.30 PM.

13.41 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the clock.

14.35 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Thirty Five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[English]

[MR. DPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL),
1993-94

(i) Ministry of Agriculture- CONTD.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ram Pujan Patel to speak now. Shri Patel, there are many other hon. Members who want to participate in this debate. Therefore, I request you to kindly

speak for five or six minutes so that other hon. Members also can participate. Many points have already been covered. If there are any other points, you can just cover it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, five minute is too less, even then I will try my level best.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the 30th of the last month and during the discussion on the last year's budget, I had said that the removal of fertilizer subsidy would reduce its consumption as farmers in our country are not prosperous enough, for putting better fertilizers in their fields. This will reduce the foodgrain production and make its import necessary. In the reply to the Unstarred Question number 6267 dated 21.4.1993 the hon. Prime Minister had told that due to hike in the prices of manure and fertilizers the sale of Di-Amonia Phosphate and Potash had fallen by 30 per cent and 55 per cent respectively. But later he said that there had been no adverse impact of it on the production of Rabi Crop during 1992-93. Through you, I would like to know from the Government as to when it will sense the adverse impact of it, will it realise at that time when the production of foodgrains, will fall and we will start importing the foodgrains from foreign countries. I think that it will be very unfortunate situation for the country.

The hon. Minister of agriculture is himself a farmer and is aware of these facts very well. In Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture he assures us several times that the country will not go for import of foodgrains. I would like to say that the arrangements for self-sufficiency in foodgrains should be made so that we need not import it from abroad. Just now the Finance Minister has made a statement regarding restoring the fertilizer subsidy which was withdrawn earlier. If it is so, this is a good thing as Sainik Kabir Das has said "Kahe Kabir Jaye De Vahi, Jo Jab Chete Tab Se Sahi" means it is better late than never, if the Government

understands this even now, it is very good. The Government should make an announcement in this regard immediately because last time the Prime Minister has assured that a relief only for Rs.365 crores was given and there is no provision for it in the budget of current year. It is my submission to the Government that the Minister of Agriculture should make a statement in the House today itself and tell us clearly as to how much relief he is going to provide to the farmers on manures and fertilizers so that farmers could be encouraged to increase the production of foodgrains.

India is a country which has almost all natural resources but we are willing to run this country on the guidelines framed by the Western Countries. India has its own civilization culture and heritage, we can not improve the economic condition of the country by following the guidelines given by foreigners. The hon. Minister may be aware of the fact that the field, in which cowdung manure, compost and green manure are used, has more water absorbing power and the field, in which fertilizers is used needs more irrigation. There is a need to make a research in this respects we should use such fertilizers as may improve the water absorbing capacity of soil, so that there could be less need of irrigation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the Dunkel proposal. People are shouting and discussing about Dunkel proposal everywhere but I, myself could not understand what actually it is the Commerce Minister says that there will be no harm through Dunkel proposals to the country and the Minister of Agriculture says that if there will be any adverse impact of it on agriculture then the proposal will be rejected. So it is my submission that the features of Dunkel proposal should be laid on the Table of the House and discussed in the House so that we could know the pros and cons of the Dunkel proposal, otherwise there will be no remedy for the loss country will suffer through it. So the harmful aspects of Dunkel proposal should be excluded by the Government. The

[Sh. Ram Pujan Patel]

Government should pay attention towards the scientists who had developed the quality seeds through researches and had made the country self-sufficient in the field of foodgrains.

Last time when this House was discussing the same topic the hon. Speaker had said that there should be adequate deliberations on this subject. Today we talk of providing agriculture the status of industry but I would like to say that industry is being run by machinery but agriculture depends on nature so while providing agriculture the status of industry this factor should be taken into account and only the required amount of status should be given because today farmers are being harassed by police inspectors only, but after getting the status of industry, the farmers would be harassed by industrial inspectors, income tax inspectors and several others too. There are other several methods, which can be adopted for the welfare of farmers.

Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you take an account of the ten-year crop cycle of farmers, you will observe that there is good crop only for two years, for the other two years crop may be average, there is problem of drought, flood and pest for the remaining six years causing destruction of crops. Thus having average crop for two years and good crop for two years are not enough to make farmers prosperous. Despite all these things, it has been recommended in the report of the commission which was set up in respect of agriculture that income tax should be imposed on agriculture. The people who suggest to impose income tax on farmers do not know the actual economic conditions of farmers. The Agricultural Minister's announcement that there will be no tax on agriculture have given a great relief to the farmers of the country.

Sir, the Government announces support price for a number of agriculture produce but does not open any purchasing centre for purchasing other agricultural products at support price except wheat and rice. This harms the farmers. It needs

a review of the situation. The attention should also be paid to the problem of foodgrains storage. There is no proper storage facility for more than 50% of the foodgrains, whether it is stored by FCI or CWC. The current year's budget has a provision of Rs. 422 crore to improve the storage capacity. But there is a great need for utilising the existing storage capacity properly instead of constructing new storage buildings, I think it will increase corruption.

Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are repeatedly ordering to conclude, so I will not go into details of any thing and in short I would like to say something about land reforms which is being emphasised everytime. Land ceiling has been enforced in some parts of the country but it has not been implemented all over the country. It should be made effective through-out the country. It is my submission to the Minister of agriculture that as there is a Ceiling on the land so there should be a Ceiling on money also, because without it, upliftment of poor is not possible.

I would like to say that the Government should pay special attention towards soil conservation, because soil erosion is too much. Thousand millions of rupees are being spent in the name of soil conservation but the result is nil so you should provide the money allocated to the purpose of conservation to farmers directly.

There should be some concrete rules to complete the consolidation of fields within a certain period in the villages. The turn of next consolidation comes but the earlier cases of consolidation still remain pending before the court. It is a saying in the villages that there is no chance of dacoity for the next 20 years in the villages where once consolidation takes place. The officials extract bribe from farmers causing them more poor. In Uttar Pradesh, a rule has been formulated that consolidation will be after every twenty years.

In a village in my area Phulpur during 1976 SC/ST people were issued land lease which has

been cancelled without any information. I would like to say that such persons who commit such mischief with SC/ST people should be punished according to the provisions made in the constitution of India. I hope that everyone will work for the welfare of the country.

There are several points regarding cooperative. The amount of money waived off for cooperatives every year provides benefit to the big officials, poor people have to suffer imprisonment for it. During Janata Dal regime there had been a big uproar over the decision of waiving off loans upto ten thousand, now Harshad Mehta has swallowed a big amount of money and no one knows the exact quantity of the same.

With these words I conclude and thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

SHRISUBRATA MUKHERJEE (Raiganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shaheed Bhagat Singh is one of the freedom fighters whom the country will ever remember with great respect for their contribution in freedom struggle. He sacrificed his life for the freedom of the country. At the time of execution he said-

Sarfarooshi Ki Tamanna Ab Hamare Dil Mein Hai,

Dekhana Hai Jor Kitana Bajue Katil Mein Hai.

I have come for the first time in tenth Lok Sabha. It is clear that the budget presented by the Finance Minister for the current year has been formulated under the IMF and World Bank directions. The Finance Minister has repeated the couplet while presenting the budget. The budget presented for the current year is not in the interest of the country's development.

It is a matter of deep regret that no separate allocation has been made for agriculture in the Budget. This would also affect agriculture. The Minister of Agriculture may please pay attention to it.

The Minister of Finance has stated that the key to economic advancement is the reformation in agriculture. I also agree to this. It would not have been wrong to expect that there would be budgetary support for agriculture but our expectations did not materialise. Agriculture sector has been neglected most. After the Fourth Five Year Plan, emphasis has not been laid on agriculture in any of the Five Year Plans. In the First Five Year Plan ten per cent of the total allocation envisaged was spent on agriculture. In Fourth Five Year Plan, it rose to 12.9%. Thereafter, it has been constantly going down. During the Seventh Five Year Plan it came down to 5.7%. In Eighth Five Year Plan it came down to 5.2% which is the lowest.

The Minister of Finance spoke on grants for agriculture. Much emphasis was laid on agriculture this year. Allocation for it has been raised to 36%. Is it true that much emphasis has been laid on agriculture? It is not so because allocation for agriculture has not been made in the Eight Five Year Plan. Where from a provision will be made for the expenditure that exceeds the total expenditure incurred during five years?

To bring about reforms in agriculture, emphasis will have to be laid on land reforms first. The Central Government wants to absolve itself from its responsibility by putting land reforms under rural development while agricultural reforms and land reforms are complimentary to each other. One cannot make progress without the other. Leaving aside one or two states, works for land reforms have not been undertaken. A survey conducted by National Sample Survey reveals that in the year 1953-54 the owners of one acre land were approximately 47% and the total land in their possession was only 1.57 per cent of the total land of the country. A slight change was noticed in 1982. The percentage of this category of farmers rose to 48% and the total land in their possession was about 2.75% of the total land in the country. On the other hand, in 1953-54 the owners of 15 acres of land were 7.72% and they had 52.50% of the total land in their possession. In 1982, the

[Sh. Subrata Mukherjee]

percentage of this category of farmers come down to 3.98% but they had in their possession 33.27% of the total agricultural land of the country. Although it appears that the number of big landlords continues to decline day by day but this is not so. The number of families has increased and there is division of land among these families. Besides, in the wake of enforcement of land ceiling laws, land owners have not submitted correct data. They went in for *Benami* transactions of land but the area of land in their possession remained the same. On this account, there is decline in their number. Similarly, a change was noticed in the category of middle-class landlords. In 1953-54 the owners of land ranging from 2.5 acre to ten acre were 32.04% and the total land in their possession was 41.27%. In 1982, there had been a slight decline in the number of such landlords and their number came down to 29.3% but the land in their possession there to 54.51 per cent. All these things prove that in the case of land reforms, no progress has been made at All India level.

So far as agricultural reforms are concerned, people compare Punjab with other States. This is so because capital has been invested in agriculture in Punjab. Agricultural land has not been distributed there, even then there were 9.4 per cent the people of this category in 1953-54 and they had 58.04% of total agricultural land in their possession. According to the sample survey conducted by the Government of India in 1982, there were 5.5 per cent owners of such land and who had possessed forty per cent of the total land of Punjab.

I think it necessary to mention West Bengal because land reforms have taken place in West Bengal. A comparison with other states reveals that in 1953-54, there were 2.59 per cent landlords who had in their possession land exceeding 15 acre and they had in their possession 26% of the total agricultural land. Now it is 1993, some change has come about in 10-11 years but according to the survey report of 1982, the

number of such landlords is 0.29% which is just negligible and they have 4.21% land in their possession and there are no landlords at all having land exceeding 15 acre. There must not be the only objective of land reforms that the land exceeding the ceiling is distributed among the landless, rather there should be consent of share-croppers while taking over the land exceeding the ceiling. In other states share-croppers are totally neglected, but in West Bengal the names of 16 lakh share-croppers are registered and they have twenty two per cent of land in their possession.

To understand the importance of land reforms it is necessary to compare West Bengal with Punjab, since this process has not taken place in Punjab. In Punjab capital has been invested in agriculture sector and seeds, fertilizers and machines of good quality have been used there but West Bengal lack all these things, only land reforms have taken place and small scale irrigation facilities have been provided there on large scale. If we take last year's production of the entire country including that of Punjab, where the Government has brought about green revolution, we find that there has been a 1.5% fall according to the report. While in West Bengal the production has gone up by 10 per cent. In 1982-83 in West Bengal..(Interruptions) Green revolution has come about in Punjab but it has not come about in West Bengal, even then West Bengal occupies first position in the production of rice. Hon. Minister of Agriculture is aware of this fact. It occupies second position in the production of potato, even if we assess the production from the angle of hectare, it occupies first position. There has been 67.4 per cent jute production in West Bengal. Only land reforms have taken place in West Bengal. Along with land reforms, production should also be taken into account. The Government has placed it under the Rural Development department while it should be placed under the Ministry of Agriculture. I oppose this also. Land-reform programme brings about transformation in rural areas. It boosts the energy of the people to work. It also helps increase the purchasing power of

the rural people. The Government report admits that nearly fifty per cent people are below the poverty line but land reforms improve the economic condition of villages. With these reforms, they earn money and with that their purchasing power increases.

By withdrawing the subsidy on fertilizers, the Government has hit the agriculture sector hard. Last year a provision of Rs. 340 crore was made to provide fertilizers to small and marginal farmers. In the current Budget this provision has not been made. The small and marginal farmers will not be able to utilize the facility provided to them last year. It would have adverse impact on agricultural production. Small and marginal farmers are forced to sell their produce in the market at the time of harvest. Big farmers do not come in this category. They can retain their produce. Government has made a provision of rupees 500 crore for this purpose and it had made provision of Rs. 500 crore last year also. But the State Government has only received Rs. 365 crore I oppose this also.

On the one hand, the Government makes wide publicity of 36 per cent increase in budget allocation for agriculture and on the other hand, it has withdrawn support prices for small and marginal farmers. Jute is considered to be the cash crop in West Bengal. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru had taken pains to boost jute production in the State. Though jute is a cash crop, the farmers are not getting fair prices. The Government has constituted the Jute Corporation of India to purchase jute from farmers in time but the people in villages call it "Jhooth Corporation of India".

Neither the Government announces support price for jute at right time nor the Jute Corporation purchases it from the market. Because there are largest number of jute mills in West Bengal and the number of workers engaged in Jute Mills including farmers is almost 40 lakh. Therefore, if farmers do not get reasonable price for jute, it will push almost 40 lakh people into miserable plight.

Sir, keeping in view all these aspects, it is necessary to lay emphasis on agriculture. I hope that the Government will give due importance to this sector and will not neglect it.

Sir, the Government has not made any provision for landless agricultural labourers in this budget. The number of the small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers is 70 per cent of the total people engaged in agriculture and the Government has not made any provision for them. The Government has not made any provision for them. The State Governments have fixed their minimum wages, but the Government has not made any arrangement to monitor and monitor as to whether these labourers get minimum wages or not. Agriculture labourers work very hard and have to forgo even their meals for producing foodgrains for the society but the Government has no time to think about their problems. The Government talks of the Green Revolution but per hectare production in our country is much below than that of the per hectare production in the developed countries of the World. Today the cultivable land in our country has increased. Barren land has also been converted into cultivable land, but proper irrigation facilities have not been provided in most of the areas. However small irrigation schemes have been implemented. Improved seeds are being used even than the production in the country is less as compared to China, Japan and other countries. Hence, there is utmost need to formulate a scheme to increase the production but the Government is not paying any attention towards this fact. Government is not made any provision for it in the budget. Keeping in view the increasing population of the country the agricultural production should be increased. If it is not increased we may not be self-reliant in this field and will have to import foodgrains. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: By Five o'clock, we have to complete this debate. Then one hour the Minister will take in replying to the debate.

There are others who also want to participate. You have taken 19 minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE: I would like to say a few words about irrigation. There is only one big irrigation project viz. Tista Project in West Bengal. This project requires due attention. An amount of Rs. 365 crore has been spent on this project so far while the Central Government has provided only 15 crore for this project. I request the hon. Home Minister to complete this project in view of its national importance.

In the end, I would like to say that it has already been said that this budget has been prepared under the directions of the IMF and the World Bank. There is no scope for doubt in this. The Government has also reduced the support prices for food grains.. (Interruptions)

Sir, there is no question to speak on Dunkel Proposals because several hon. Members have expressed their views in this regard and I agree with them.

Moreover, I would like to say that the direction in which the Government wants to lead the country will not be in the interest of India. The people of country will not tolerate if the Government leads them to the path of slavery. On behalf of the people of country, warning the Government and quoting a couplet, I would like to conclude:

"Gar aapaka faisala hai yahan bijili girane ka, Hamara bhi faisala hai yahan ashiyan banane ka."

With these words, I would like to thank you for you have given me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise

to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): This matter relates to agriculture. Speak in Hindi.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: In my village people do not speak Hindi, they speak Tamil.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Then speak in Tamil. (Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER: If people of my village come to know that I have not to be recorded done* here and I speak in Hindi, then I don't know whether I shall be able to go back or not.. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (North Bombay): Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. Is speaking in Hindi means Hon. Member can't insult Hindi in this way. He can't use such words for national language. It should not go on record. (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. Nobody has ever insulted national language in such a way. These words should not go on record. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I am on a point of order. I take strong exception to this. Nobody will call him a traitor if he speaks in Hindi. How can he be called a traitor? (Interruptions) Please withdraw it. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the business of the Parliament is transacted in both languages viz., Hindi and English and the hon. Member says that by speaking in Hindi, he will do... National language has never been insulted

in this manner. If he desires, he may speak in Tamil. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, such words should not go on record.

[English]

SHRIMANISHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not an enunciation against Hindi or English. After all he comes from Tamil Nadu, he may not be able to express himself in Hindi.

SHRI RAM NAIK: He can speak in any language, he need not speak at all also. That is a different matter. But how can say like this? (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: He may speak in English if he so desire. But that derogatory remark against Hindi must be expunged from the proceedings.

SHRIMANISHANKAR AIYAR: Expunge it, I say. Please sit down. Every time I get up to speak, some word is expunged. You may still expunge this word also. I will keep Shri Ram Naik happy by saying Vande Matram.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sir... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: He has derogated Hindi and now he is derogating Vande Matram. Finally what is the ruling? What did he do now?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If such a word is used not in consonance with the Parliamentary procedure then such a word is removed but he has not used Vande Matram in that sense.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture. I wish to address myself

exclusively to one point and that is the subject of aquaculture. (Interruptions)

I appeal to the Chair... (Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is not going on record. You continue.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER: I wish to address myself to the subject of aquaculture. I appeal to the Chair that I must be permitted to have my say without being continuously interrupted. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kindly do not disturb. It is not fair. We have to maintain decorum in the House. Frequent interference does not look nice. Shri Aiyar, you continue.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER: Either I be permitted to speak or they should raise a point of order, but this way of continuously making a commentary while I am attempting to address myself to the subject, at hand is, I submit, extremely unfair. May I be permitted to have your protection to have my say on the subject of aquaculture?

I wish to address myself to this subject of aquaculture for two reasons: One is, my constituency of Mayiladuturai is emerging as one of the major centres of aquaculture in the country and it is my personal hope that we will be able to make it the aquaculture capital of the country. But from the nation's point of view, we have a world business, a world trade in products of aquaculture that amounts to Rs. 30,000 crore. Rs. 30,000 crore!

At the moment our exports of aquaculture products are only in the region of about Rs. 600 to Ts. 700 crore a year. Therefore, there is a potential for us to extend our exports of aquaculture products not merely by three or four times, but by as much as up to 30 times because aquaculture can best be conducted in areas which are tropical, such as most areas of

[Sh. Mani Shankar Aiyar]

our country, which have a long coastline, and there are few countries in the world that have a longer tropical coastline than ours and where soil and climate conditions are appropriate to aquaculture. We can, I would submit, not merely reach the target of Rs. 3,000 crore worth of aquaculture production exports, within the next few years, but we could target to easily become the world's foremost exporter of aquaculture products, with aquaculture exports alone equalling almost the totality of India's exports at the moment.

Yet, there is a great deal of confusion in the Government of India as to which Ministry deals with this subject. There is no doubt that by an interpretation of the word 'agriculture' to incorporate the expression 'aquaculture' the responsibility devolves upon the Ministry of Agriculture. But at the same time, it is evident that aquaculture products cannot be consumed until they have been processed. We have a Ministry of Food Processing whose job it is to look after the processing of agro-based products. Therefore, there is a certain amount of rivalry between the Agriculture Ministry and the Food Processing Ministry as to where exactly the lines of responsibility lie as between these two Ministries.

Much of our aquaculture production is exported. Therefore, the Commerce Ministry plays an extremely important role in the whole business of aquaculture. So, there is confusion as to what is the area of responsibility of the Commerce Ministry vis-a-vis the Food Processing Ministry and vis-a-vis the Agriculture Ministry. And since there are activities integrally related to aquaculture such as the setting up of seed mills and even setting up processing units, the Industry Ministry sometimes comes into the picture.

Given the extremely high importance, actual as well as potential, of aquaculture in the totality of the Indian economy, my plea with the Minister

of agriculture and through him with the Government of India is that we should clearly determine who is responsible for what, so that we do not get jurisdictional battles standing in the way of the development of this extremely important economic activity. And if necessary consideration be given to the establishment of a separate department of Aquaculture or even, possibly, a Ministry of Aquaculture.

The need for this is underlined by the fact that in order to attain this potential, we will need to take extremely urgent action on a large number of fronts.

Sir, there is a special irony to the fact that you have given permission to raise this issue today, the 4th of May 1993 in this House because it was exactly one year ago on the 4th of May 1992 that the Extreme Focus Group on Aquaculture of the Ministry of Commerce submitted its report. And the progress that has been made towards the implementation of the Extreme Focus Group Report is virtually nil.

Consequently it is imperative that we address ourselves with the utmost urgency to an area of economic activity that is not only of a very high macro economic significance to our economy but intimately tied with bringing about a social revolution in those parts of our agricultural economy where because of salinity ingressed into the land, it is almost impossible for agriculturists to farm in the normal conventional sense of the term. If this were done, I believe that we would need to first address ourselves to certain fiscal problems. Last year in March 1992, speaking here on the Finance Bill I had brought up. The question of a fiscal regime for aquaculture arguing that aquaculture is neither agriculture nor industry and, therefore, requires a fiscal regime that is specific to itself. The hon. Finance Minister had specifically mentioned my name in his reply and he had specifically said that the question of aquaculture was one that would engage the highest attention of the Government. I then wrote to him before the Budget reminding him of what he had said on the

floor of the House. And it is a matter of deep disappointment that there is no reference whatsoever to a fiscal regime for aquaculture in the Budget speech nor in the Draft Finance Bill that is before us. I hope, this lacuna can be rectified even as early by tomorrow.

I would plead, sir, in the fiscal area, that there are two major steps that we need to one take that the income tax on aquaculture should be brought on par with agriculture. At the moment, pisciculture is taxable. And it is completely unclear as to whether aquaculture is being treated as pisciculture or being treated as agriculture. I think, we need a clarification that aquaculture will be treated on par with agriculture. Similarly, Sir, in regard to land cess, where I think there is a case for increasing the land cess on land used for aquaculture. Aquacultural land is treated in the same manner as agricultural land. There have been no separate productivity norms established for aquaculture. We need to establish those new productivity norms for this new activity and to link land cess to them.

Next, we need to dramatically change the infrastructure for aquaculture. For example, electricity is now being provided to aquaculture in the same manner as it is being provided for agriculture. In fact, aquaculture is a continuous process industry. And the need for electricity for conducting aquaculture is of a totally different order to what exists for agriculture. We, therefore, need an electricity regime for developing the infrastructure for aquaculture. If we are to go anywhere near attaining the target - let me repeat, for the benefit of the hon. Minister for Agriculture - of Rs. 30,000 crore per year. If we are to do justice to the natural comparative advantage which India has in the global market in this area, we have to double the totality of our existing exports. Secondly, there is a gazette notification of the 20th of February 1991 No. 105 Annexe II, which relates to the intake systems that can be put up for bringing sea water in land in order to undertake aquaculture. I think, this particular gazette notification is unnecessarily restrictive. In actual fact, it is not being observed.

It is being observed mostly in the breach. And, therefore, I would request the Minister for Agriculture to look again at that gazette notification is unnecessarily restrictive. In actual fact, it is not being observed. It is being observed mostly in the breach. And, therefore, I would request the Minister for Agriculture to look again at the gazette notification which was, after all, gazette notification of a regime that hardly knew what it was doing.

And we can bring it up to date and bring it in line with what we now actually need.

There is need for the Ministry of Agriculture in consultation with the State Governments to examine whether the land ceiling that applies to agriculture should also apply to aquaculture. It is evident that you cannot have successful export oriented commercial aquaculture unless there is a major marketing capacity to send it abroad and this means that we are going to have a large number of case farms faux pas but no large case farms can continue to exist without the support of a large number of satellite farms. The whole of our Land Ceiling Act has been conceived, all the Land Ceilings Acts in the country have been conceived with agriculture in mind. The specificity and specific requirements of aquaculture have not been taken into consideration. The needs to be done in a meeting which, I suggest, our hon. Minister of Agriculture convenes with all his State counterparts.

There is need for a very major health certification process to be brought in because in countries like the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand which experienced in an aquaculture boom, the entire industry collapsed when diseases spread in the aquaculture farms owing to the lack of proper health control. We need to prevent such a disaster from occurring; the disaster does not normally overtake aquaculture in the beginning. It is exactly at the moment when the industry appears to be in a boom phase that suddenly diseases start attacking it. We need to learn from the experience of other countries and ensure that there are proper health regulations

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over here.

I am conscious of the fact that I should be restricting my comments to not more than another two minutes. so, I will just mention the headlines.

The Minister of Agriculture is requested to take into account the specific financial needs of aquaculture which are dramatically different as between the big aquaculturists and the small aquaculturists. There seems to be no particular problem at the moment with regard to large aquaculturists having an access to bank finance to this. But, if I may draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance, our satellite farms in the aquaculture area are having great difficulty in securing bank finance because bankers simply do not understand between in the small aquaculturists and the large aquaculturists.

There is need for the Ministry of Agriculture to devise a new system of insurance that is specific to aquaculture instead of merely extending unimagination, and without any application of mind, the regime that currently exists for the insurance of the agricultural crop, automatically to the insurance of the aquaculture crop. (*Interruptions*).

Sir, this is my final point. We need to pay a tremendous amount of attention to building up the scientific and technical manpower required to run this massive Rs. 30,000 crores industry which is going to give far more employment than perhaps even agriculture currently giving and certainly a far greater revenue and a far greater income to the poorest of the agriculturists in this country. We need to build up this manpower; we need to have apprenticeships; we need to have training programmes. I am afraid the existing network of laboratories under the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and the Indian Council for Agriculture and Research needs to be thoroughly looked at again because these laboratories were built up for a very traditional form of pisciculture. They need to be looked at

in the very very fast moving technological era of aquaculture. For this, I would plead with you that your Ministry gives all the support it can to a proposal that has been worked out by the Marine Products Export Development Authority for the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Aquaculture, in the village of Sattangudi in my Constituency and for which we are seeking World Bank assistance. I would plead with you, Sir, that the Ministry of agriculture should not stand in the way of the realisation of this project, but should extend its full support and its blessings. For that alone the people of my constituency would be ready to build if not a statue of gold in your honour at least a statue of prawns in your honour.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, rise to oppose the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture because agriculture which is the basis of our national growth and the farmer who is the backbone of this country is feeling neglected by this Government. As a result of which the strength of the nation is diminishing.

I would like to say, in brief, that it is necessary to improve the present lot of the farmers. Land should be allotted to the farmer who is actually engaged in agriculture. Irrigation facility should be provided for the entire cultivable land. Remunerative prices should be given to the farmers for their produce. If we follow this policy, it would certainly lead the farmers to the path of self-reliance. The total cultivable land in the country is 17.30 crore hectare but cultivation is being done only on 14.20 crore hectare land. Irrigation facility is available only for 68 lakh hectare land out of it. The scientists are of the view that irrigation facility can be provided easily to 11.30 crore hectare land because the country is not able to utilize water of ever flowing rivers for the development of agriculture and in such situation even today our agriculture is completely depending on monsoon. Until the dependence of farmer on monsoon is not overcome he can't

become self reliant. For this purpose, I would like that a National Development Bank should be established for the upliftment of farmers and through it agricultural loan should be recovered through a single window. Today, when a farmer applies for loan he has to visit tehsil, block and bank several times and the difficulties he has to face for getting this loan is much more than the amount of the loan taken by him. Therefore, credit cards should be given to the farmers. Holding books are given to farmers in Uttar Pradesh similarly credit cards should be given to them, in which all details should be mentioned. A loan waiving scheme was launched during the Janata Party regime. The said scheme should be started again because many farmers could not get the benefit of this scheme due to withdrawal of this scheme. So this scheme should be restarted for the benefit of those remaining farmers. Production of fertilizers should be increased and subsidy should be restored on fertilizers.

That need to be reintroduced because we have in India already given a relaxation. In India the storage charge is 160 dollar per tonne whereas in America D.A.P. fertilizer is available at the rate of 260 dollar per tonne. All the fertilizer industries in our country are likely to become bankrupt under this policy. I would, therefore, like to say in this regard that the Government should reintroduce the subsidy on fertilisers.

Secondly, I would like to submit that the Government should increase the facility of providing loans to the small and marginal farmers. Since the number of such farmers is very large in our country, special arrangement should also be made for providing irrigation facility to them. The Government is at present not taking up the issue of land development. I would like to submit that the Government should once again pay its attention to the land development programme. The matters should be expedited and the tillers of land should get benefit. The situation as it prevails now, all the small and marginal farmers are being dispossessed of their lands. There are, however, no landlords

that disposses them of their land; but the policy of the Government under which fertilizers and other items have become costlier is responsible for this State of Affairs. The farmers have to use fertiliser without which they can't produce foodgrains to support their family. Under such a situation, the farmers have to take loans to support their lives. Further, they have to sell their lands to repay the loan and ultimately they become paupers and come on the roads and they go to towns for pulling rickshaws and for doing other similar jobs to support themselves. One recent trend has emerged, that is the small farmers are giving their lands to the big farmers who have tractors with them on share crop basis. This is a recent trend. The situation that we witness in villages is quite contrary to the situation that should have emerged after the Land Development Programme introduced by the Government. To put a check on this tendency, the Government is required to bring about a change in its present policy of providing seeds and irrigation facility on cheaper rates and moreover, the present policy of providing loans to the small farmers should also be revamped.

These days there is much discussion on Dunkel Proposals. News in this regard is appearing in Newspapers daily and moreover things are in State of Confusion. I would like to say that the matters related to Dunkel Proposal should be placed in the House for discussion rather than making statements on them outside. Whatever policy we arrive at after discussion in the House on those matters should be adhered to. If the Government plans to avoid discussion on those matters and if the Government intends to accept all the proposals gradually, then it would be a blatant injustice to the farmers of the country.

Similarly, I would like to submit to you that the Government should pay its attention to land development and the hurdles in the pace of this work should be removed and the work of distributing lands should be intensified. With these words I oppose the demands for grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

[English]

PROF. K. VENKATAGIRI GOWDA (Bangalore South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and to ask for more grants to enable the Ministry to adopt and to push through the new strategy of development and to make agriculture the leading sector in economic growth. As everybody knows, agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy. About 70 per cent of the people depend crucially on agriculture and agro-based industries. Agriculture supplies food for the growing population, fodder for the cattle, raw materials for the industries and several goods for the export market. However, agriculture is almost neglected.

There is no sequence in choice of the sectors of development. In the 18th century, in England, there was first agrarian revolution. That was followed by the industrial revolution so that the industry got a base in agriculture for its development. But in India, it is the other way round. In India, priority has been given to industries and then we talk of agrarian development. The Second Five Year Plan was industry oriented unlike the First Plan which was agriculture-oriented. In the First Plan period because of the focus given to agriculture, food supply rose and the prices fell. In the Second Five Year Plan because of industrialisation, there was fall in food production and rise in food price. And the Plan had to be pruned when it was half-way through. When the food supply rises, the price level falls in spite of deficit financing. When the food supply falls, the prices rise even though the Government runs a balanced budget. Fall in food supply causes rise in the inflation rate and also recession. Therefore, it is necessary for the Government to adopt what is called food supply strategy in order to increase food supply and to promote non-inflationary economic growth, and to maintain macro economic stability. Therefore, food supply strategy must become the objective of planning.

The Finance Minister in his Budget speech

has rightly observed that agriculture should be the basis of any successful planning effort. To quote him:

"No economic strategy can succeed in our country which does not recognise the central role of agriculture in supporting broad-based and equitable development. The Government is firmly committed to ensure that agriculture, agro-processing, rural development are given top priority in the design of policy.

A major instrument for encouraging agricultural production and making it profitable is the assurance of remunerative prices to the farmers. Procurement prices for the last Kharif crop and the forthcoming Rabi have been handsomely risen to ensure that farmers are compensated for increases in the cost of inputs. It is also a policy of the Government not to place administrative restrictions on movement of agriculture products within the country. Our farmers must have the full benefit of prices available in the domestic market."

But food supply in India is inadequate to feed the growing population at adequate nutritional standard. The level of food availability is low in India. China has already reached the production level of 300 million tonnes according to the U.S. estimates. This for the population of 100 crores, gives gross per capita availability of around 330 kg. per annum as against only 200 kg. in India. Those who are euphoric about the late harvest of 180 million tonnes of foodgrains in India should remember that the harvest should have been higher by 100 million tonnes to match the Chinese achievement. India should aim at the per capita availability of 300 kg. by 2,000 A.D. This requires production level of 300 million tonnes by 2,000 A.D. If the Chinese could produce more than 360 million tonnes from less than 100 million hectares of arable land, why should India not produce 300 million tonnes of foodgrains from over 143 hectares of arable land, that too by the year 2,000 A.D. This, of course, requires irrigation facility, adoption of scientific farming, use of pesticides and insecticide, good seeds,

preventing water logging and salination in order to produce the required food supply to feed the growing population.

The corner-stone of agricultural development is the adoption of proper technology. But in India technology has not been attractive in the rain-fed area. It has made progress in areas which have experienced Green revolution in rice and wheat. Therefore, in the rain-fed areas, technology is not welcome by farmers for two reasons. The first reason is, the farmers are not used to this kind of technology. The second reason is, technology encourages single crop endeavour whereas the farmers want to grow multiple crops. Therefore, it is necessary to devise strategy and technology which is suited to both multi-crop and also single crop, packages. In the areas which are thickly populated, there should be labour-intensive technology. In the areas which are sparsely populated, there is need for capital-intensive technology. There is need to adopt the technology which is suited to Indian agriculture.

There is need for adopting area-specific and cropspecific technology in both the rainfed areas and irrigated areas. There should be capital intensive technology available in the sparsely populated areas and labour-intensive technology available in the densely populated areas. There is need for targetting farm technology towards small and marginal farmers.

Another factor which is necessary is the sanction of subsidy for food and fertiliser. Food subsidy is necessary to help the people below the poverty line. If food subsidy is not given, poverty will grow. Those who are below the poverty line will be poorer. Those who are above the poverty line, will sink below the poverty line. In India, the average family spends 70 per cent of income on food and if the food prices rise, the cannot afford other things necessary for comfortable life. Therefore, it is necessary to give food subsidy so that those who are below the poverty line can lead a comfortable life.

At the same time, fertiliser subsidy is also necessary. The demand for fertilisers may be elastic or inelastic. If the fertiliser prices rise and if the demand is elastic, the demand for fertiliser will fall and, therefore, the input for fertilisers will fall. This causes a fall in farm yield. On the other hand, if the demand for fertilisers is inelastic, the input of fertiliser remains the same. The prices of farm products and food, in particular, rise.

Therefore, those who are at present on the creamy layer are getting the benefit of food subsidy. At the same time, the big landlords, medium farmers are getting the benefit of subsidy on fertiliser. To avoid this, there is need to give food stamps to the poor consumers and fertiliser stamps to the small and marginal farmers so that the benefit of subsidy may go to them. There is need for the supply of credit also.

Under the scheme of social control over banks, there was what is called the priority sector. Agriculture was the priority sector. Under this scheme, 40 per cent of bank loans had to be given to the priority sector. But the Narasimhan Committee report has recommended that it should be reduced to 10 per cent. If that is done, there will be demand to the farm sector. Therefore, for some time the bank lending to these sectors should be retained at 40 per cent.

Another factor is to ensure that remunerative prices are paid to farmers. If the prices are not remunerative, the farmers will lose interest in agriculture. This causes fall in food supply. Empirical research has shown that the cropping pattern is responsive to price incentives. If food prices are not remunerative, farmers switch over to nonfood crops. This causes a fall in food supply and a rise in food prices. Therefore, the farmer should be given sufficient remunerative prices.

Government of India wants to globalise agriculture. This calls to one's mind the Dunkel draft. There are two views on it. One is that Dunkel draft is going to make India a land of flowing milk and honey. The other view is that it would ruin

[Prof. K. Venkatagiri Gowda]

Indian agriculture. But the truth lies between these two extremes. Some provisions of the Dunkel draft are, of course, harmful and Indian negotiators should see that these harmful provisions are suitably amended to benefit Indian agriculture. If these amendments are made in the Dunkel draft, there is no harm in accepting the Dunkel Draft and to globalise agriculture.

All these factors require large amount of funds for Ministry to enable it to push through the new strategy of agricultural development and to make agriculture a leading sector in Indian economic development.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS (Mysore): Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you for the opportunity given to me. I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister and the Finance Minister and his Ministry for having brought about drastic measures, reformative measures to improve upon our economy in our country which has been appreciated inside and outside our country.

Agriculture, as we all know, in our country, is a basic contributor to the economy. We cannot think of the progress or prosperity of millions of our people without thinking of agro-based economy. Major portion of the land is owned by innumerable small land holders. We only talk of farmers who grow sugarcane, paddy, wheat etc. by which they are a little strong in voicing their demands in any forum. But alas, others are not heard. I would like to stress upon the point that these farmers are more hit by the vagaries of nature either drought or floods. These people grow minimum basic foodgrains like jawar, ragi, maize, millets and cereals in their limited areas of land where there is no irrigation or any other option.

Due to these reasons, many people are thinking that agriculture is a non-viable and

uneconomical profession. In the present day, our problem is, how to make it viable. Most of the lands are not utilised properly or irrigated properly. For optimum utilisation of these lands, we have to think of conservation of water and soil. Even after Seventh Five Year Plan, many major projects are under completion. The financial institutions which are operated for the benefit of the farmers, due to their cumbersome procedures, they are put into hardships. The procedures of documentation and availability of advances made in time are to be simplified to help the farmers instead of harassing them. There should be a supply of good manures both organic and chemicals as also there should be good supply of healthy seeds and fertilisers and pesticides. Through the prices have been brought down yet it has to be brought down yet it has to be brought down to some more extent.

In addition to these points, emphasis has to be given to make agriculture a component of productive resourceful means. For example, by supporting and encouraging piggery, poultry, sericulture, horticulture and by growing silver oak, white seedon in the wasteland, with other longstanding crops to supplement the farmers to meet other expenses. And commercial crops like cotton, tobacco, oilseeds, wheat, coconut, sugar, turmeric etc., which are known as commercial crops could be more resourceful by supporting or subsidising and fixing up reasonable scientific prices, by tying up trade with other countries for exports. For this turmeric exports, storage and markets facilities are to be provided in covering larger areas especially rural areas. Also FCI facilities should be extended to our rural farmer folk. If it is a State subject, guidance, advice could be given to them in this regard.

Intensive training to our unemployed rural youth to such rural based professions, small scale rural industries which could be run without much input of power or money only by using minimum technology and indigenous raw materials like jute, coir, cotton and silk, should be given. Sir, thanking you once again I support

the demands on Agriculture.

Preparation of food products, semi-finished and packed foods should also be encouraged and they should be exported. No doubt, we are producing tractors and other agricultural implements. But, we are forgetting about the livestock which is the backbone of our farmers. They are in plenty in numbers but not quality. Less care is being taken for their welfare and wellbeing. Due to shortage of good fodder and water, livestock is also facing lot of problems. So greater emphasis has to be laid on animal husbandry. It should be given more importance and substantial funds should be given to take care of the animals, hospitals, staff, drugs etc. more important of all is the supply of healthy and successful semination which could produce healthy cattle which yields in turn adding to the milk and milk products which are more essential for the upbringing of the young children.

Sir, agriculture consists of many other portfolios like rural development, commerce, industry, finance etc., and by cooperation among each other it could bring about progress and success.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on this very important Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

This year will be remembered as one of the worst years which the farmers have ever experienced, particularly the farmers in Andhra Pradesh. The cost of cultivation has increased substantially because of the increase in the cost of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers, hike in the prices of diesel, transport charges, agricultural labour wages, irrigation charges and agricultural electricity tariffs. Due to all these things, the cost of cultivation has increased tremendously. But, at the same time, the farmers are receiving lesser amount for the crops which they have grown. I think similar is the case in other States also.

As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Agriculture Minister, whom I respect and revere, that the prices of paddy, in spite of the increase in statutory minimum price this year, the open market prices have come down from Rs. 240 to Rs. 220 per 75 kgs bag. Regarding black gram, the prices have come down from Rs. 800 per quintal to Rs. 600 per quintal. Similarly, in the case of extra long staple cotton and long staple cotton, the prices per a bale of cotton has come down from Rs. 1500 to Rs. 1,000. Regarding chillies the prices have come down from Rs. 4,000 per quintal last year to Rs. 1,500 per quintal this year and the trend is that it may still go down further. Regarding tobacco, while the average prices realised last year per kg was Rs. 27, this year, the prices are varying and it is less than Rs. 20 per kg on an average. In this connection, the hon. Agriculture Minister would be interested to know that before last year the average price realised per kg of FCB tobacco was Rs. 33 to Rs. 40. You can imagine the loss that is being sustained by the tobacco growers. Regarding groundnut which is one of the important oilseeds, the prices have come down from Rs. 1200 per quintal to around Rs. 700. Due to this, the farmers financial position is going down, as a result of which he is unable to pay his bank debts.

16.00 hrs.

Already some cotton growers in Mahaboob Nagar District and Prakasam District have committed suicide. Today, there is a news item which I had brought to the notice of the hon. Agriculture Minister. It has been published in the *Eenadu*, one of the leading Telugu daily paper.

In that the information is that on the orders of the hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh when the Telugonda RDO has conducted an enquiry into a suicidal death of a farmer in Anantapur District in Hindupuram Mandalam, Maluguru Village; a farmer by name Anjanappa has committed suicide because of the difficulties he was encountering by not being able to pay the bank debt because of his failure to get good price

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

to the cocoons which he was producing. He was a sericulture farmer. This is a typical example that I would like to bring to the notice of the Government.

The plight of the tobacco growers is the worse. A few days back, under the dynamic leadership of the AP Assembly Speaker, several MPs, MLAs and tobacco growing leaders called on the Commerce Minister and the hon. Prime Minister and requested them to take immediate steps to protect the interest of the tobacco growers. On tobacco products, the Government is getting Rs. 2400 crore excise income per year the single highest revenue earning item. But the farmer is suffering the worst.

We suggested to the Government to collect 1 per cent levy of the excise duty from the cigarette manufacturers and the farmers are also prepared to give 1 per cent, equal amount, from their side, let the equal amount be given by the Government of India, which is the main beneficiary of the excise income, to set up a revolving fund of Rs. 5200 crore and purchase tobacco at such times of crises to help the tobacco growers. But, Mr. Chariman Sir, I would like to say with all pains that after the delegation had called on the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister had assured them that all possible steps would be taken to protect the interests of the tobacco growers, the situation is that the prices have further fallen down; the farmers have lost all hopes. I would like to caution the Government that the farmers are compelled to resort to direct agitational approach, agitational programme of *Rasta Roko and Rail Roko* in the coming few days if the situation does not improve and if the Government does not come to the rescue of the tobacco growers.

One of the very important development that has taken place last year is, the hon. Minister for Agriculture has placed the draft agricultural policy resolution on this very floor of the House. I would like to say without any hesitation that it

is nothing but old wine in an old bottle; if not in a new bottle. He will forgive me to say so because practically not a single item was there gives enthusiasm to the farmers of this country.

In spite of the fact that this country has tremendous potential where 50 per cent of the total geographical area is utilised for rising crops and where we have got adequate water resources, hardworking farmers and a suitable climate which would permit to rise two to three crops a year, why is India lagging behind? In fact, with all the infrastructure at our command, our country should have become number one agricultural power in this entire world. But why have we failed to do so? The draft agricultural policy has failed to address the very reasons as to why our Indian agriculture is lagging behind. That is where I feel so sorry.

16.04 hrs.

(SHRI TARA SING in the Chair)

Leaving apart certain statements made in that, I would like to point out to this august House the share of agriculture, including cooperatives, which has been steadily coming down over the successive plan periods as a percentage of the total public sector plan outlay. It has come down from 15 per cent in the I Plan to 12.9 per cent in the IV Plan, 8.5 per cent in the V Plan, 6.6 per cent in the VI Plan, 5.9 per cent in the VII Plan and I am very sorry, it has come down to 5.2 per cent in the VIII Plan. I am telling this in percentages, not in absolute terms.

Regarding irrigation which is the most important input into agriculture, which will definitely help us in increasing the productivity and production, what is the fate of allocation? From 22 per cent in the I Plan, it has come down to 12.5 per cent in the VI Plan to 9.4 per cent in the VII Plan to 7.5 per cent in the VIII Plan.

While things are moving like that, how can we accept any real progress or breakthrough to take place in the agricultural sector? Mere words

or ambitions or only policy statements are not going to change the agricultural scenario of this country. I would also say it with pain. What is the fate of the farmer? Why are you giving the step-motherly treatment to the farmers? When the farmers with Rs. 50,000 worth of land go to a bank or to a cooperative credit society, they are not even given a loan of Rs. 2,000. There is a ceiling limit of Rs. 10,000 for a farmer; but for the industrialists, there is no such ceiling. For the total nine crore farmer families, you are giving hardly 16 per cent of the bank credit, while you are giving for a few thousands of big, medium industrialists, 36 per cent of the bank credit. Only the other day, the Reserve Bank of India has given the guidelines to all the banks, to extend ten per cent of their total bank credit to the few thousands of exporters. Is it done with all great hope that they will be able to increase our exports? How can they increase it without the enhancement of the agricultural exports? Your efforts will not succeed in increasing our exports. I would like to categorically say that.

My appeal, in the interests of not only the farmers, but in the interests of the nation, to the Government is that they give up the step-motherly treatment to agriculture. You may kindly treat this as a very important and first and foremost priority item. Unless you improve the living standards of crores of people who are living on agriculture, you cannot expect the industrial development to take place. Where will be enough demand of industrial products or consumer goods that are produced in the industrial sector? So, I appeal to the Government to accept certain defects or lapses that have taken place, without any hesitation, without standing on false prestige. It may not be the lapse of this Government; it may not be the lapse of our Agriculture Minister. Sometime back, they could have taken place. But, try to correct it now and put it on a right track.

Before I conclude, I finally would like to appeal to the Government, not to sign the Dunkel Draft text in the present form; do not mortgage the interests, the future of the crores of families of the farmers in this country, to the multi-nationals

abroad. Till now the farmers have been enjoying a right to produce, to retain for his personal needs and also to sell it to his neighbour or to a commercial borrower who is prepared to take. (Interruptions) I am only making a last point. Regarding seeds, it is necessary that he should have it as well as he should give to his neighbour. But the present provisions will compel the farmers to purchase his requirement from the multi-national companies every year. The present market access is going to play havoc in the agricultural fortunes of this country. Even though we do not actually require certain items which are to be imported, but because of those conditions, if we import them, then there will be a dearth in the market conditions and the farmers will be ruined because of lesser prices.

It is happening this year in the edible oil front. With great difficulty, during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's time, the technology mission has been initiated. It was operated by Mr. Kurien and NDDB with a price band; and the farmers are slightly happy. They have produced oil seeds; and today we have reached nearly self-sufficiency position. This year we have imported, under PL 480, thousands of tonnes of edible oil; it has brought down the prices of groundnut, sunflower seeds and almost every oilseed. That is a classic example. I would appeal to the Government not to accept all the provisions. If the provisions are good, let us adopt them; but, such of the conditions, such of the provisions which are detrimental to the interests of the nation and the farmers, please do not accept. Even if you accept and sign, the farmers of this country are not going to obey by them; they are not going to abide by them. I clearly warn this Government.

With these words, I thank you very much for having given me the opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV (Shahjahanpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to express my views on behalf of my party. Mr. Chairman,

[Sh. Satya Pal Singh Yadav]

Sir, I rise to support my Cut Motions.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the messiah of farmers Chaudhary Charan Singh had said time and again that the well being of the country rests in the fields of the country. The country will not prosper unless the development of fields is ensured. Late Chaudhary Saheb spent most of his time in Uttar Pradesh and was responsible of introducing the provisions like land Consolidation Act, Zamindari Abolition Act, Mandi Samiti Act etc. to ensure development of farmers. He had also opposed the idea of cooperative farming proposed by Pt. Nehru. Thus Chaudhary Saheb initiated several similar programmes in Uttar Pradesh for the welfare of farmers. Supporting the Cut Motions, I would like to appeal to the Government on behalf of Janata Dal (Ajit), that it should try to follow the path shown by Chaudhary Saheb. In his autobiography, Chaudhary Saheb has written that Pandit Nehru gave priority to Industries in India under the influence of Western countries and consequently Agriculture was neglected. Chaudhary Saheb has also written that Pandit Nehru realised at the fag end of his life that development of India can be ensured only by putting much emphasis on agriculture. He however, never got an opportunity to revise his policy and the country is now facing the consequences. The country has, of course, made a progress, but there has not been a phenomenal growth of agricultural production to meet the challenges posed by rise in population and unemployment. I would clearly say that agricultural production during 1960-61 was 8 crore tonnes. Later on production was increased and it came upto 17 crore tonne. But we should also have taken into consideration the extent to which production was required for the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our country had to import 30 lakh tonnes of wheat last year. This is because we could not produce wheat to meet the demand of the country. Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is for the first time after P.L. 480 pact was terminated

that our country had to import wheat from foreign countries. But even after that Agriculture sector is being neglected. Can there be anything more shameful than this? I would, therefore, like to warn the hon. Minister of Agriculture that if the Government continues to neglect agriculture sector and does not announce an agriculture policy that could safeguard the interests of the farmers, then all the 20 Members of Janata Dal (Ajit) would strongly support the Cut Motions and would not hesitate in pulling the Government down.

Sir, so far as the subsidy is concerned Government has made a provision of Rs. 7000 crore for subsidy for fertiliser. Moreover, the Government has also stated that a handsome amount is to be given to farmers as subsidy. But the situation is that only 127 lakh tonnes fertiliser has been used during 1992-93 as against 2.75 lakh tonnes fertiliser has been used in the country during 1960-61. The use of fertiliser has grown considerably. Farmers have been convinced that production of food grains cannot be improved without the use of fertilisers. After that the Government has raised the prices of fertilisers. The Government might be misleading the public by announcing Rs. 7000 crore subsidy just to claim that India is capable of bearing that much amount of subsidy. But see as to how the amount of subsidy for fertilisers is being utilised. The Government is providing subsidy only to big industries and to foreign firms and the farmers are not directly benefited by the subsidy. The prices of D.A.P. fertiliser has been raised. You can say that by providing subsidy, the prices of urea has been reduced by ten per cent. Subsidy has been given at the rate of Rs. 1000 per tonne, but the farmers have apparently not derived any benefit out of it. I would like to warn the Government that the people of India and the farmers are much troubled. I would further like to appeal to hon. Minister of Agriculture that he should realise this point. In reply to a question he has admitted this fact. The sale of potash-phosphetic fertiliser has reduced. As per my knowledge, the hon. Minister of Agriculture wrote in this regard to the Hon. Prime Minister who

ultimately wrote to the hon. Minister of Finance that the sale of phosphetic fertilisers has fallen down. It will have an adverse impact on production in years to come.. (*Interruptions*) Consequently, farmers are not able to ensure the required production of foodgrains and we have to import it from abroad. Population is increasing. If agriculture is neglected further and if subsidy on fertiliser is not increased, then the claim of the country to be self-reliant in the matter of foodgrain will be forfeited. As per my knowledge, subsidy on agriculture which was 4.2 per cent has been reduced to 3.6 per cent. The Government just claims in vacuum that it is safeguarding the interest of farmers and it would not allow hampering of the interest of farmers. There is 92 per cent use of hybrid rabi-seeds in our country and that of Kharif is 56 per cent. There is ample use of hybrid seeds along with chemical fertiliser which will adversely affect farming. The responsibility of the present hon. Minister of Agriculture increases in the face of the fact that out of the total 1847 lakh hectares of cultivable land in the country irrigation facility has not been provided in 452 lakh hectares and the Government is required to spread the network of small-irrigation schemes. There is ample irrigation facility available in U.P., Harayana and Punjab and there is much use of fertiliser in those states. The production is good in the places where fertiliser and irrigation facilities are good. There are several districts in West Bengal where irrigation facility and use of fertiliser is adequate. But such facilities are not available in other states. The Government cannot solve the problems of farmers only by providing fertiliser and hybrid seeds to them.

First you make arrangements for irrigation then you can convert the barren land into a fertile one. (*Interruptions*) You are not implementing your policy of liberalization in the field of agriculture. When a farmer wants to go for a crusher, he has to apply for a licence moreover, a restriction is also there on the export of agricultural produce from one State to another. Wheat which is available in U.P. at Rs.350 a quintal is available in Karnataka and Bombay at

therate of Rs.700 and Rs.1000 per quintal respectively. There is no restriction on other items but by putting restriction on agricultural produce, the farmers are being neglected. The Minister for Agriculture has said that Insurance scheme for the welfare of the farmers is being implemented in each and every district. I want the insurance scheme to be implemented. This is being done in every district but the restriction on carrying agricultural produce from one State to another should be immediately done away with and a policy of liberalization should be adopted for agriculture also. So far as the question of support price is concerned, the support price of wheat is Rs. 330 and Rs. 25 is bonus. The Government machinery is not working properly in U.P. So the farmers are forced to sell their wheat in the open market as the banks do not have sufficient amount to pay to the farmers, the Government employees are not working properly, therefore, the farmers do not have faith in the Government and as a result thereof the middlemen are accumulating money. (*Interruptions*) You want to work for the welfare of the farmers but the laws enacted by the Government in this regard remain in the books only. You have said it in the House that you are paying Rs. 323 per quintal in U.P. but I can claim that no farmer is getting this rate in U.P.

I would like to give you an example in this regard. An amount of Rs. 2 crore was allotted to Sugarcane Development Department for purchasing pesticides, which was bought from Sarup Chemicals Private Limited, Aish Bagh, Lucknow-4. A complaint was also made to you and when a test was carried out it was found out to be a mixture of 80 per cent dust stone and 20 per cent Gulal. The whole lot was a bogus one and thus an amount of Rs. 2 crore was misused. I want that such organisations and persons should be given an exemplary punishment so that they may not play with the lives of the farmers in future.

We want that cities should not be neglected but you are even neglecting rural areas. The percentage of labourers in rural and urban areas

[Sh. Satya Pal Singh Yadav]

is 86.5 per cent and 13.5 per cent respectively. Towards the national income, rural areas contribute 29.8 per cent while the Urban areas contribute 70.2 per cent. The rural areas and urban areas contribute 10.5 and 89.5 per cent respectively towards the total deposits. During seventh five year plan, it was decided that 78 per cent and 22 per cent expenditure will be incurred on Urban and Rural areas respectively. For research work 11.8 per cent for rural areas and 88.2 per cent for urban areas. For electricity it is 26 per cent and 74 per cent, for providing loans from the Public Sector banks it is 16.5 per cent and 83.5 per cent, in the field of literacy it is 36.7 per cent and 62.3 per cent, for Medical facilities it is 27 per cent and 73 per cent for rural and urban sectors respectively. I feel that you have every sympathy for the rural sector but your Government do not feel so. They talk of Dunkel Proposals. One Minister made a remark before the press that he does not know, what is Dunkel. The Parliament wants to know, whether you are going to implement the Dunkel proposals and will compel the farmers to purchase the seeds under patent law. You are deviating from the policy of self-sufficiency. You have every right to oppose it and do not let it pass in the House. Please clarify all these points. If you want the support of 20 Members belonging to Ajit Singh party then you will have to declare subsidy to the farmers.

[English]

SHRIN. DENNIS (Nagarcovil): Sir, supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture, I wish to make a few points.

India is an agricultural country and about 70 per cent of our people depend on agriculture. It provides employment opportunities to a large number of people. It is the source of their livelihood. The development of agriculture is the development of our nation and a progress in the agricultural sector is the progress of our people. We have adopted sound agricultural policies

and programmes and thus in spite of the vagaries of monsoon floods and drought, and adverse weather conditions, deficiency of electricity supply and other hurdles of difficulties, we have achieved self sufficiency in food production. We have also increased production more than three times more than what it had existed at the time of independence.

In 1950-51, our production was only 50.9 million tonnes. In 1991-92, it was 167.06 million tonnes and it has crossed three times higher than that had existed in 1950.

This achievement in production is the result of the progressive policies and the programmes pursued by the successive Congress Governments. Agriculture Universities Institutions and research centres have been opened. As a result of research work of agricultural scientists improved variety of seeds and fertilisers crops are developed. The credit goes to the agriculture scientists their research works and the hard work of agriculturists. We cannot be complacent about our achievements though we have made considerable achievements in agriculture.

Our per hectare production is far behind the per hectare production of foodgrains in the advanced countries and it is below world average, to cite an example, the per hectare production of rice in Australia, as per 1990-91 figure, is 8843 kg. In India, it is 2573 kg. The world average is 3581 kg. In Ireland, as per 1991 figure, production of wheat is 7444 kg; in India, it is 2226 kg. The world average is 2441 kg.

In India itself, in different States and different regions, the quantum of production is different. In Punjab, the rice production in 1989-90 is 5520 kg per hectare. In Assam, it is 1148 kg. So infrastructural facilities and other incentives have to be extended to the backward regions and states.

Comparing our production with the neighbouring country China, as per 1989 figure

the foodgrains production is 270 million tonnes, our production in 1992-93, is likely to be around 177 million tonnes. The per capita availability of foodgrains is also less than China. So, we have to step up production, and productivity.

The per hectare production our national demonstration plots in our country is comparable to the per hectare production in the advanced countries. So, there is scope for improvement and increase in production in our country by the application of manures and better technological methods. Previously, only tradition methods of cultivation were practised only traditional seeds, manures and also implements were used. Now agriculturists go in for modern, scientific methods of cultivation. So, high yielding seeds, fertilisers, modern equipments are needed. So, the farmers have to spend more and they are expecting and seeking more assistance from the Government as they are investing more money. Marginal and small farmers have to be helped more more and timely help is needed.

Benefits of research work have to reach intended places and also to the intended persons, to the down trodden and poor people in nook and corner of this wide country.

The Green Revolution, which is now confined to some regions and places, has to be extended to different places.

As far as agricultural labourers are concerned, they form 80 per cent of our labour force in the country. There is an increase in the production but there is only little change in their socio-economic conditions. Per capita availability of foodgrains to them is very low. Those who are feeding us should be fed well. They should live well and their conditions are to be improved.

The assistance extended to the farmers faced by Natural Calamities is very low. After cultivation when they hope of good harvest. But they are faced with lot of difficulties like natural calamities, floods droughts and other diseases to crops.

On 13.11.92 grave damage of crops havoc and loss of lives occurred in southern part of Tamil Nadu and Kanyakumari district and extensive areas of crops have been damaged. But relief measures carried were nominal. People were rendered homeless. The relief measures extended to those who left houses have to be extended to those who lost small houses with minimal gestures. Even for the damage of crop they have not been provided any relief measures.

As far as my constituency is concerned there is a large number of fishermen like in Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu. They live in a narrow strip of land congested and unhygienic circumstances. They have to be provided with houses under Fishermen Welfare Scheme.

Fishing harbour is a necessity there and it is their long standing demand. There seems to be difficulties for fishing because of sea-erosion. During the Monsoon season, for a period of five months, they cannot operate their fishing vessels into the sea. They are fully depending on fishing. There is no alternative job for them. So they are facing severe economic constraints and difficulties. Subsidiary industries have to be started for their benefits. Natural working facilities for operation of fishing vessels have been damaged due to sea-erosion. They cannot operate their vessels during monsoon season because of high waves and rough seas. So I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that it is highly necessary and essential that fishing harbour be provided in the West Coast of Tamil Nadu, i.e. Kanyakumari District.

Now they are going to other parts of Tamil Nadu, and other States like Kerala and throughout the country for jobs. It is an utmost necessity to provide jobs to them.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode): Respected Chairperson, at the outset, I would like to express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry

[Dr. (Smt.) K.S. Soundaram]

of Agriculture.

Water and fertilizers are the main inputs for agriculture to raise more production in agriculture. In 1950-51 the intake of fertilizer was 69 lakh tonnes and in the year 1991-92 it went up to 135 lakh tonnes. It is hundred fold increase in the intake of fertilizer and the production has not been increased proportionately.

Regional imbalances have taken place in the country. In the field of agriculture also there has not been a balanced production in the country. Though irrigation facilities and greenery prevailed in many areas, the potential has not been fully exploited. As such, I would like to point out that our scientists should discover new methods of agriculture and grow improved seeds for dryland farming and for the cultivation of coarse grains and pulses.

I request the Government to provide all kinds of best seeds like sugarcane, paddy, turmeric through the Block Development Offices in the country. This will help them a lot to increase the food production.

Regarding my constituency, we need Agricultural College in Erode or in that area. Periyar District in my constituency is famous for turmeric, sugarcane and paddy. Hence I appeal to the Centre to set up an Agricultural Research Institute also at Erode.

The Government provides subsidy on fertilizers. But the subsidy is given either through the producers or through the distributors of fertilizers. The farmers are unaware of this subsidy given by the Government. Therefore, the Government should devise a system under which subsidy would be given at the point of sale of fertilizers to the farmers.

As far as productivity is concerned, agriculture depends on water mainly. I take this opportunity

to appeal to the Government to nationalise all the water resources in the country. There has been a demand for several decades for linking up river Ganga with Cauvery.

Let Mother Ganga see her sister Cauvery to make the India Union rich!

This is the opportune time to devise ways and names to see her sister, so that the fruits are harvested in the decades to come. Likewise all major rivers should be connected.

Sir, Tamil Nadu could be enriched by diversion of the West flowing rivers originating in the Western Ghat region of Kerala. Nearly 1,20,000 hectares of land in Coimbatore region and Madurai, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts in Tamil Nadu would benefit through the river. Regarding Cauvery, many obstacles are being created by some people.

Sir, in this connection I appeal to the Government that the Interim Award given by the Cauvery Water Tribunal should be implemented at the earliest.

There is a general feeling that the public distribution systems is not effectively controlled and administered. The Centre should not take decisions to change the system or to increase the price without consulting the States. This is because, the prices are increased by the Centre but the implementation of the distribution system is to be carried out by the States. As a result, the States are directly blamed by the people.

Tamil Nadu has the best public distribution system in India, but it has also to share the largest burden when prices are hiked, because, it is the only State which provides rice to the people at a subsidized rate of Rs.3 per a kilogramme.

I request the hon. Minister to revive the Food for Work Programme. This is a very popular programme. I also press upon him for enhancing the procurement system. At present, the

procurement rate is 10 to 12 per cent. it must be enhanced to 25 per cent. With the availability of about 170 and odd million tonnes of foodgrains the public distribution system can be run smoothly.

Now only less than 10 per cent of our farming community generate surplus foodgrains for the market. They are, to some extent, benefited by the increase in the support price. The small and marginal farmers and agricultural workers who do not generate surplus are not so much benefited with this increase in the support price. But they are the people who are to stand in the queue before the fairprice shops to collect the essential commodities of daily use and they have to pay the increase in the issue price. I, therefore, demand that the increase in the issue price should be viewed with the eyes of the poorer sections of the people because increase in issue price amounts to extracting more money from the pockets of the poorer sections of the people and giving it to the rich people.

It is reported that rice is being regularly smuggled out to Bangladesh from India. If this smuggling of rice is prevented, we can save thousands of tonnes of rice every year. Now the Centre is allocating sugar to the States according to the 1981 census. Now we are in 1993. During the year 1991-92, India produced 125 lakh tonnes of sugar and stood first in the world in sugar production. But the Centre is allocating only 13,31,928 tonnes to all the States in India for the Public Distribution System every month. Annually it comes to 39,83,136 tonnes. This amount of sugar given to the Public Distribution System is less than one-third of the total production of sugar in our country. So, I request the Government to increase the quota to the Public Distribution System also immediately.

Sir, previously cooperative banks used to obtain food credit from the Reserve Bank of India at the concessional rate 13.5 per cent. Now the Reserve Bank of India has withdrawn the concessional rate for food credit. The present

rate of interest is 20 per cent. So, if the Public Distribution System has to be successfully implemented with the special interest that the Prime Minister is showing, then the Reserve Bank may be asked to restore the concessional rate of interest for food credit.

Sir, I demand that the States should be given more financial powers to mobilize resources on their own in order to implement the Public Distribution System effectively and successfully to supply essential commodities to the public at low prices.

Agriculture is the largest industry in this country. Our part has been making a demand to give agriculture the status of industry. But the present Government too has not so far shown any interest to take steps in this regard. No practical agricultural policy could be adopted. Consequently our quality of production has never been satisfactory all over the country.

Despite their immense contribution towards making the country self reliant, condition of our village farmers remain unchanged. The fruits of development are yet to reach the rural areas.

When engineers and politicians could be recognised for Bharat Ratna award, why not agricultural scientist in this agricultural country be decorated with award where 75 per cent of our population live on agriculture?

Sir, Mr. M.S. Saminathan, who belongs to our Tamil Nadu, a world renowned agricultural scientist who had almost taken all the international awards, who has dedicated all his life only for agricultural research and contributed for Green Revolution could have been long back recognised for the award of Bharat Ratna in the country. He is the committed son of the soil.

I conclude with the few words in Tamil.

"ULUVAR ULAGATHARKKU AANI AKTHATRATHU ELUVARAI ELLAM PORUTHU".

[Dr. (Smt.) K.S. Soundaram]

Farmers from the axis to life and every other citizen depend on their labour only. This was the observation made by great Tamil Saint Thiruvalluvar. According to his statement let us go for more food production and let us feed the entire world. This should be our motto. Both the Central and State Governments should extend a helping hand to protect farmers who sweat in the wet and dry land, toiling and miling in the soil, to cultivate more. Congratulating the farmers and the man's great occupation the agriculture let me conclude my speech, thanking you again for extending me an opportunity to speak on Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Agriculture

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, due to paucity of time, I shall limit only to points.

My first point is that the farmers should be given more encouragement. I am happy that the hon. Balram Jhakarji came to Kerala to declare the best farmer in connection with a contest that was arranged by one of the foremost dailies in our State. Why not we adopt this contest in the whole of India? We must find, who is the best farmer. Of course, we should limit also to the small growers, let us find the best farmer and give the maximum encouragement. This is the suggestion that I am making.

Secondly, I think that the Agricultural Policy is in the offing. I would say that some of the agricultural producers are not given due encouragement in bringing them under the Agricultural Prices Commission. Now the best encouragement that can be given to a farmer is the facility to get a reasonable price. He must be able to get a fair price, a reasonable price. He is not asking for a huge profit. He must be given a fair price. For that, the Government will be able to do something. I would say that this Policy should envisage something by which all the agricultural producers including the cash crops, which are generally left out, which never come

under the Agricultural Prices Commission, should also be viewed. And along with that, support price be made for them.

I am happy that something is in the affing with regard to price of coconut which has been taken into account. Though account was declared as an oilseed by the of teh previ us Government, yet it was said that all the benefits which are being given to oilseeds nneed not be given to coconut. I am happy that the new Government has taken some decisions and some reliefs have been given. Now, I think, that it is a proper time that a support pircce be fixed for cocanut which is already declared as an oilseed.

Now, with regard to rubber, which is one of our main plantations, the Commerce Ministry is causing a great difficulty to the farmers. I do not say that the Commerce Ministry is not looking after the platations at all. But the Commerce Ministry is concerned with trade and the Commerce Ministry is always interested in getting some adjustments with regard to best exports and in this way they forget the farmers. So, I would suggest that the Agriculture Ministry should take this matter very seriously and save the farmers.

The import duty on rubber has been reduced from 70 percent to 25 percent recently. This will increase indiscriminate import of rubbe. It will cause crash in the price of natural rubber produced in India. Therefore, I request the Minister to come to the rescue of the farmers and restore the import duty as before. Even according to the Government statistics, the difference between demand and production is very small. There is no necessity for import. I am happy to say that earlier when the farmers were in serious problem and when we brought to the notice of the Government that actual production is in excess of consumption and requested for export of rubber, this Government took a decision to export and did actually export 8000 tonnes of rubber. But, now, we are drifting far away from that stance and the Government is allowing the

industrialists to import and this is because of the pressure from big industrialists to crash the price of domestic rubber. The cost of production has established to high limits. This applies to all plantations. Therefore, the farmer should get a reasonable price.

Regarding pepper, the cultivators are in great difficulties. I am happy that the Government has taken a decision to purchase 3000 tonnes of pepper through agencies from farmers. But, this must be purchased and implemented, and the farmers should ensure a reasonable price.

The farmers especially the small growers are the real working class. They are faced with not only imports and threats of this nature but also of smuggling from other countries.

Cardamom and cloves are being smuggled in great quantities. This usually crashes the price of these items. Smuggling should be checked and stopped. Cardamom is being smuggled through North-Eastern States and cloves from Sri Lanka.

The price of nutmeg has crashed steeply. Unless the Government ensures fair price to the growers, this valuable cultivation will get destroyed. This applies also to cultivations like ginger, turmeric etc.

With regard to general aspects, I did not touch them because all these have been touched by my friends and I know that there has been a time constraint. So, I would urge upon the Minister to take very serious note of all these points.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister for Agriculture towards an important issue. Ours is a big agricultural country. But we are quite backward in the field

of agriculture. There are many reasons responsible for it. We cannot make progress in this field if the Government do not have any data about requirement of capital for getting good harvest and total production and thus becoming self sufficient. I want that we should leave no stone unturned to attain self-sufficiency. We should have every details such as where would maximum production at a particular place and what crops can get us more yield and what is the annual income of the farmers etc. The capital is invested at various levels in the country, nobody is accountable for its accounts. The amount which is allotted for agriculture sector is being usurped by the officials. They pocket such amounts by making false receipts as most people in this sector are illiterate and they do not know even A.B.C. of accounts. The officials, who go there to dupe these people do not work themselves. It is essential to demonstrate new crops and seeds.

Our living standard is very low. If we comparatively look at it, we find it the lowest one. Infants do not get milk to drink. The per capita consumption is very low. When one tries to get milk and butter of good quality for using in medicines, one does not get it. This is a very shameful thing. Even after 45 years of independence and being an agricultural country when we come across such situation, we feel ashamed. Recently, our Government imported wheat. It was Government's helplessness. Why this helplessness? Politics and agriculture are two different things. Politics do not provide either rain or wheat. Therefore, agriculture should be made politics free, then only it will be beneficial for the farmers.

Poultry neither requires much capital nor appointment of big officials. If poultry farms are established, it will provide jobs for the youths, as a result thereof they will not migrate to big cities in search of job. Some states like Punjab and Haryana have worked in this direction. You can increase its scope. Some State have already taken this step whereas others are yet to take an initiative in this direction.

[Sh. Pius Turkey]

Likewise, if animal husbandry is given due attention, then we will not have to wait for 3-4 or 5 years for getting profit out of it, this we can expect even after 1 or 2 years period. I hope radical changes in this field as hon. Minister for Agriculture claims himself to be an agriculturist.

Tea plantation, also comes under agriculture and our country is badly in need of foreign exchange, otherwise we will be overburdened with the debt. The season of tea plantation is the rainy season and after that during November, December, January and February, if irrigation facilities are made available then we can get its produce round the year, which can be beneficial for us. Last year, we exported 210.14 million kilogram of tea which fetched us Rs. 1157.14 crore. If we raise our production then it can add to our foreign exchange earnings. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister for Agriculture to visit tea gardens, which are in very limited area and try to resolve the problems being faced by this sector.

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Budget.

The first reason for opposing this Budget is that the Government's policy is formed under the guidance of World Bank and I.M.F. and hon. Minister is helpless to prepare a budget as per their wishes. I would like to give an example in this connection. This year in your agriculture report you have not given much stress on production of seeds as you know that after implementing the Dunkel proposals, you will get seeds from foreign then why production of seeds should be increased in India. That is why, I oppose it because your budget is on the lines of the direction given by your masters i.e. World Bank and I.M.F. The second reason is this that it neglects the backward States. The States which are backward in the field of agriculture include West Bengal, Orissa, M.P., Eastern U.P. and many other states. The Government's

policy till date has been of such type that on the one hand it paved way for green revolution in some State. Like Punjab, Haryana and Western U.P. which is good for the country and on the other hand most of the States have been neglected. In this budget on specific provision has been made for the backward State. Therefore, a special scheme should be made for increasing the agricultural production in the backward and deficit State like North Bihar, Bihar and Orissa etc. I had mentioned it last year also that if Jakhrajji pays his attention towards North Bihar, then it can provide food for most of the parts of India but you do not pay your attention towards it. I had made a submission in this regard last repeating it till I am in the Parliament. The third reason is this that this budget do not pay any attention towards agricultural labourers, poor farmers and marginal farmers.

The entire Budget is meant for the big farmers. Your policy is export oriented. At that time I pointed out as to how it could be export oriented because the attention of the people in our country has been diverted towards horticulture. Fruits production has increased, so from that point of view it can be export oriented. I can say it about Bihar where fruits like liches, mangoes and bananas are produced. More attention is being paid towards horticulture. Some time back some officials went there but due to some faults in the machine they could show few pictures only. Therefore, I would say that more attention has to be paid on this point.

17.00 hrs.

So far as subsidy on fertilizer is concerned I would like to say that the entire House, including treasury benches, favour the continuity of subsidy on fertilizer to the farmers. Besides that I would like to give some suggestions in this regard. Firstly, while continuing the subsidy on fertilizer, the role of middlemen should be minimised and the benefits of subsidised fertilizer taken by the big farmers should be checked. Secondly I would like to say about crop insurance scheme. Many hon. Members have pointed out that the

crop insurance scheme should not be taken casually but it should be implemented effectively in all the districts. Thirdly I would like to say about trade zones. As some hon. Members said that if wheat purchased from Haryana is transported to Bombay or Madras that would naturally cost more and there would be difference in the prices too. You have announced the procurement price of wheat and you are purchasing it on that prices. You have divided the entire country into trade zones. Under such circumstances there will be free zone transportation and that will benefit the farmers and the general public will also have adequate supply of foodgrains. My fourth demand is that loan facilities should be extended to all the farmers. More loans should be provided to small farmers because they face lot of difficulties in growing crops. My fifth demand is that the agriculture should be given the status of an industry. Though the Government have taken some steps in this direction but some concrete scheme should be formulated for this purpose. By doing so the agriculture will come at par with the industry. My next demand is about land reforms Act. In Champaran district of Bihar about ten thousand acres of land has been forcibly occupied by the farmers but that land is still lying in the names of Zamindars. The hard work and sacrifices made by the farmers have gone waste. Therefore, the Government should formulated a clear cut policy on land reforms and the Government should State whether it is willing to implement the land reforms Act or not.

My ninth demand is that the Government should pay attention on the development of horticulture. People should be educated about it. *(Interruptions)*

How we can learn it? You can learn it. Our officers know about it. *(Interruptions)*

Sir, you know about Champaran district. A farmer's agitation was launched by Mahatma Gandhi in Champaran. Therefore, I would demand that a college should be opened at Pipara which will benefits Chhapra, Sivan,

Gopalganj, Sitamarhi besides Champaran districts.

Sir, in the end I would like to say that crores of rupees of the farmers are due on the Sugar mills situated particularly in North Bihar. You may say that it is not your department but you are farmer's leader and also farmer's Minister. Therefore, you should take up this matter and ask the Sugar mills to make payment to the farmers. With these demand I oppose the Budget.

(Englishs)

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Let me say it. Under the rules, a mover of the cut motion must be given a chance to speak. I am a mover of the cut motion. My name is notified. Why, I am not given the chance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I disallow it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: It is unfair. In this case, I walk out from the House. There is no procedure here.

17.07 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam left the House

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, he represents a smaller State. He comes from a smaller State, one of the North-Eastern States. They have their special problems. He can be given five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have accommodated all the parties.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam): Sir, some come from the rural area and some come from the urban area. The person belongs to urban area, does not know about the problems faced by the farmers in rural areas. What all this is happening in the Parliament? (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Mr. Chariman, Sir, first of all I would like to offer my thanks to the hon. Members who spoke on the Demand for Grants, moved cut motions and took keen interest in the discussion. I am also thankful to other hon. Members who participated in Consultative Committee and Parliamentary Committee of this Ministry.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Rajveer Singh initiated discussion on the Demand for Grants and concluded by Shri Madhukar. Perhaps Shri Madhukar has left the House.

SHRI KAMAL MISHRA MADHUKAR: Sir, I have not gone. (Interruptions) were speaking sweet even while making criticism of the Budget true of your name.

I am proud of it that many hon. Members have expressed their views on this subject. I had a desire that some more members including Shri Yaima Singh Yarnam should have participated in it so that I could get more suggestions because whatever is spoken here is spoken for the benefit of all. I am your humble servant. You have given me an opportunity to serve you. I always try my level best to do whatever I could do for you.

Mr. Chariman, Sir, all the hon. Members know that the base of development is agriculture. If we would like to bring about prosperity in our country that can be done only through agriculture development. Future of our country is based on

agriculture. All sorts of development for the present and coming generation depend on development of agriculture sector. It can be said that five fingers unitedly make a hand strong but there is a thing on which foundation is laid and in India that foundation can be laid on agriculture only. Our entire development depend on agriculture. Our economy, industry, trade etc. entirely depend on agriculture. I am very much impressed by the views expressed by all the hon. Members and I also agree with them. Without agricultural development, prosperity of our society is not possible. We have to develop our agriculture sector first only then we can determine the development path for our country and that can be done with the cooperation of all of us.

Some cut motions have been moved by some hon. Members and I have thoroughly gone through all of them. I have categorised them and accordingly I would like to reply them. One thing I would like to make clear that what the hon. Members think I, too, think the same but the only difference is of approach to realise the goal. I know that whatever we want to do can be done with the cooperation of all and I am confident that all the hon. Members would extend their cooperation to me. But it is also true that every thing cannot be achieved at once. For that purpose mutual cooperation, gradual development process, farsightedness, deliberations and planning are must. I am doing the something and I have been getting cooperation of all the hon. Members. I think there is hardly any number who has not cooperated with me. There may be minor differences but our ultimate goal is one and for that I am getting cooperation of all the hon. Members.

I am grateful to the hon. Members who expressed their views. An important thing which Bhakat Kabir said is -

Na Kuchh Dekha Pothi Main, Na Kuchh Kahi
Aur Dekha,
Kahat Kabir Suno Bhai Sadho, Jo Kuchh
Dekha Roti Main.

There is nothing without bread but in addition to that prosperity is also necessary. In this regard I would like to say that first of all we should look at the present different conditions of our villages and areas. We have to see the prevailing conditions of each area and then we have to determine the direction in which we have to move ahead. I want to bring about a revolution. I always think that -

"Har Khet Main Hariyali Ho, Har Chehre Par Lali Ho, Har Ghar Main Khushhali Ho"

(greenery to every field, redness on every face and prosperity in every house)

I always have such a picture in my mind. (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBERS: It is a good slogan.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It is not a slogan.

In the absence of desires and dreams for better future progress is not possible. I have got the capability and determination to work. I respect all of my colleagues and hope you people are with me too. If such things are not done, then posterity will not forgive us. Migration from rural areas to urban areas is taking place in the country. Migrants to urban areas generally live in inhuman conditions in slums. If slums increase, then everywhere conditions will become inhuman which I do not at all favour. This migration to urban areas could be checked only if the rural people have got the resources and opportunities to earn livelihood in the rural areas. We are aiming at this only. However, how all this is possible? I feel if there is consensus on this score and also unity then we may achieve success. Every year two and a half crore people are being added to the population of the country. It is estimated that by the year 2007 India must produce 2,084 million tonnes of foodgrains. There is a need to ponder over how this is to be achieved? If we fail to ponder over it, then everything will be impossible. If population growth is not checked by all of us unitedly, then it will be impossible for us to achieve it. Land is not

increasing but in fact it is shrinking. An hon. Member submitted that average farm size is shrinking in the country and will soon be reduced to .015 per head. All of us need ponder all this. In the interest of the country, all of us must take a pledge to work unitedly or plan an alternative for the future. Farming community has always cooperated. Last year for the first time foodgrains to the tune of 30 lakh tonnes had to be imported. I was never in favour of imports and favoured recovery of payments made. Many of my hon. Colleagues are present in the House and I would like to submit in response to the query of many hon. Members that procurement is not taking place, that last year 63 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured and this year at the rate of Rs.330 per quintal 63 lakh tonnes of wheat has already been procured while two months are still left. Maximum procurement will be made because the farmers have already filled the ware houses of foodgrains. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Procurement has been made from the middlemen and not from the farmers..(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am also saying the same thing and there is no difference between my statement and what you are saying. I would like to only submit that all of us must work unitedly on this score..(Interruptions) I have advised Shri Kalpana Rai to make procurements at the announced prices or else not to announce the procurement prices at all. Last year upward revision was to be made but it could not be made. To compensate the farmers for the likely increase in the prices of fertilizers, diesel and other inputs I increased the procurement price of paddy by Rs.40 per quintal. Later on the prices were revised again. Farmers have come to our expectations and this year there is going to be record production of 181 million tonnes. This definitely will be a record and you should not make hue and cry over it. Procurement must be undertaken at the procurement prices announced for all the foodgrains, viz., coarse grains, wheat etc. and approved by the House as per the policies of the Government. All the hon. Members have urged me.

SHRI B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda): If the remunerative prices are not offered, then

[English]

is the Government prepared to assure the House that the Government will purchase the grain and other items?

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am also saying the same thing that procurement prices for foodgrains need to be announced also.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj): Late Chaudhary Charan Singh once stated that the middlemen are making huge profits. For the well being of the farmers whether the hon. Minister construct go downs in all the development blocks in all the districts in the country so that the farmers can safely store their produce there and also secure loans up to 70-80 per cent from banks or other public financial institutions against their produce thus stored and are saved from the clutches of the middlemen?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Why are you interrupting? I am prepared to tell everything.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already dwelled on that.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: How did you come to know that I would not tell about it? I am coming to this. Not only wheat and rice, even the coarse grains like pearl millet and maize, (Jawar) sorghum etc. need to be made available to the people. Whenever there is a demand for rice, wheat need not be immediately redressed. I have taken up this matter with both the hon. Prime Minister and Shri Kalpnath Rai. (interruptions)

Please listen don't interrupt in between.

SHRI KESRI LAL (Ghatampur): Wheat was

imported at the rate of Rs.526 per quintal. Why this rate is not being given to farmers in the country? The Government of India is doing injustice to the farmers. This Government is anti-farmers. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Having little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

[Translation]

Only after knowing complete details do ponder over it as to how much the farmers are receiving? Farmers are receiving more. I can say this confidently. Most of the hon. Members. have given Cut Motion notices regarding support prices. Three things have to be understood. Firstly, more production. Secondly, less production and thirdly, balanced production. Whenever there is shortage, prices shoot up as did happen last year in the case of cotton. Whenever oilseeds production was low, prices of mustard oil and other oilseeds were soaring sky high. Whenever production is surplus, prices come down and the farmers suffer, as is happening this year. I think such a price should be fixed so that the farmers and our endeavour is next to none. Has any Government done more than our Government even in the recent past nor will any Government do so in the future? When you are throwing the gauntlet, I am saying that I will do it definitely. I submit that step by step everything will be done within a year and there are no shortcuts. Just now an hon. Member, Shri Rao, who has left the House, stated that the agricultural policies are quite old. I do agree that the policies are old but all of these are not. I have already stated that the Cabinet has approved it and all the Chief Ministers have also discussed it and it has been laid on the Table of the House as well. I would like to humbly submit that it is

the policy of all of us. Please approve it in one go with or without amendments for the well being of the farmers. So that I can tell the farmers that promise made has been fulfilled. The hon. Members were submitting that the price varies a lot and at one place, price is Rs.350 while at another place, it is Rs. 750. Therefore, for equalisation of prices a single price need to be announced..(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): What about cotton?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Cotton is also coming. That has to be done.

[*Translation*]

Therefore, there must be a uniform price for the farmers all over the country whether they are of Tamil Nadu or the Consumers of that State. Slight difference in price is O.K. However, it should not happen that at one place price is Rs.3 and at another place Rs. 8. Exercising control is a must.

Recently, it was said that 55 barriers in Uttar Pradesh have been removed and about the rest, the matter had been taken up with the Ministry of Home Affairs and Shri Kalpnath Rai had also been told in writing to instruct the officers of his Department not to create any obstacle as it will be treated illegal. The hon. Minister of Finance has mentioned in his Budget speech that a single zone has been created. I want the remaining restrictions...

SHRI KESRI LAL: Officials and Officers in Uttar Pradesh are making recoveries from farmers and officials are harassing farmers when they transport foodgrains from one district to the other.

[*English*]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Have the decency

to listen first. I am giving you something. I can listen later on. But let me say something.

[*Translation*]

Why are you interrupting? You make a lot of hue and cry but listen first as the situation is not so grim. Please listen how do we propose to go ahead. Shri V.P. Singh has also come to the House. Raja Saheb, you demanded it to be done. We have got it done. Now it is for you to control the things. Wherever it has not been done, we will do it unitely. Guilty must be punished. The way obstacles have been created, must be looked into.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, an hon. Members submitted that in the new agricultural policy status of industry need to be given to agriculture. An hon. Member was saying that it will not be done-so the status of industry should be given to agriculture.

He was saying that inspector will harass them, they will send them to police custody and to the Patiala House. Farmers will have to pay several visits to income-tax offices. In that situation how will the farmers be able to do farming even if electricity and water is made available for agriculture.

The farmer cannot, at any cost, pay the tax. If he is forced to pay it, he would not be able to cater to the needs of people all over the country. The Government also propose to take effective measures for the welfare of farmers. If a farmer inherits a piece of land as an ancessital property situated near a city and if the Government acquires the land for setting up an industry or for any other purpose, he will have to pay capital gain tax. I have said that the Government acquires land but if the farmer has not other means of earning livelihood and he does not want to sell the land, he would not have to pay capital gain tax. All of us want that capital investment should be there, if it is not there, how would we make progress? It needs money. Unless we give some profit to the farmers, it would not be possible. Similarly if inadequate allocation for

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farmers is made, development is not possible. We shall have to make the farmer prosperous by means of giving him remunerative prices, and that is what we have done. We have given as much as we could, and we could try to do the same in future so that all of his requirements are fulfilled. I would like to inform the hon. Members that a sum of Rs. 2521 crore was allocated for agriculture development programme last year in the Seventh Five Year Plan which has now been increased to Rs. 7400 crore. Allocation for cooperative sector has been increased from the last year's Rs. 335 crore to Rs. 900 crore. Similarly, allocation for fertilisers has been increased from last year's rupees ten and a half crore to Rs. 80 crore, for fisheries it has been increased from Rs. 88 crore to Rs. 400 crore. In the Seventh Five Year Plan, out of an allocation of Rs. 2400 crore, Rs. 1000 crore have been earmarked for horticulture. Allocation for agriculture and machinery has been increased from Rs. 18 crore to Rs. 63 crore, for crop protection it has been raised from Rs. 26 crore to Rs. 100 crore, for dryland farming it has been increased from Rs. 52 crore to Rs. 1100 crore. Similarly, there has been an increase in the allocation for seeds from Rs. 48 crore to Rs. 200 crore; on TMP from Rs. 35 crore to Rs. 200 crore; on agricultural research education from Rs. 438 crore to Rs. 1300 crore. The previous allocation for animal husbandry was Rs. 102 crore which has been increased to Rs. 400 crore, and for dairy, the allocation has been increased from Rs. 374 crore to Rs. 900 crore. In this manner, the Government have taken these measures after taking every aspect into consideration. We have tried our best that whatever funds are made available, are utilized so that there may be capital investment.

Secondly, it would not be beneficial for us in the long run to markets raw material. We will have to find out an alternative to it. The hon. Members must be aware that at present India is at second or third position with regard to the production of fruits and vegetables. But about 25

per cent of the total fruits and vegetables go waste due to lack of storage, transport, packaging facilities. We export only .05 per cent of canned or processed food while other countries have the capacity to export about 40 to 60 per cent. Unless we provide adequate facilities to the farmers in rural areas, they would be attracted towards cities. Agro-Business Consortium, Agro-Business Centre, Agro Business Entrepreneur have been equipped with the facilities for grading, packaging, marketing, transportation, cold storage etc. Thereafter, food will be processed and exported.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: How many years it will, 10-12 years or 25 years?

17.33 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The hon. Members know that it is only the seed that we sow, which gradually develops into a plant and bears fruit only after 5 years. I have just sown a seed. I have formulated a plan and allocated funds. We are exporting grapes worth hundreds of crores of rupees this year, which is a record. The number of colling centres during last year was 22, 35 more cooling stations have been set up this year. Mango and orange are also being exported. The farmers cannot prosper without export promotion. An hon. Member pointed out that the per capita income in China is much more. The reason behind it is that their production is much more as compared to ours. The only difference is that we produce more than about 20 million tonnes of potato but we do not include it in food grains, it is considered as a vegetable. If we process it and keep it in cold-storage, it may be considered as a food stem. We have earmarked Rs. 1000 crore for processing purpose. I have been encouraging farmers to export processed form of potato to a country like Thailand. Generally, the rate of potato is Rs. 28-40 per tonne, but the prices come down to Rs. 1 or 50 paise per kg when there is a bumper crop of potato.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out one thing in particular..

MR. SPEAKER: If he is not taking his seat, you may please take your seat.

[English]

It is not going on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: My submission is as has been pointed out just now that we have made a lot of progress with regard to export during the past years. If we do not concentrate on agriculture, we cannot make progress. We have been exporting agricultural products worth RS. 7600 crore. The target would be increased next year. In the coming five years we have fixed a target of exporting food grains to the tune of Rs. 20,000 crore so as to help the farmers in the real sense. Provision is also being made for the export of litchi. Similar provision is to be made for export of betel, the situation is being reviewed in this regard. There are many other projects for the promotion of vegetable export. That is why a sum of Rs. 1000 crore has been allocation for the purpose.

Just now, the hon. Member was referring to fertilizers. I do know..

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA (Shajapur): Mr. Minister, I would like to know your views about the crop insurance policy. A uniform crop insurance policy should be implemented for the welfare of the farmers all over the country. The hon. Minister may kindly furnish the information with regard to the measure being taken in this regard..(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: So far as the crop insurance policy is concerned, under which the

highest limit was Rs. 10,000. It was for those who could afford to insure their crops only after they got loan. It was a voluntary scheme. Some of the states implemented the scheme in their States while the others did not. The result was that a very meagre amount of Rs. 120 crore was collected in the form of premium as against the claim of Rs. 950 crore, thereafter that scheme did not prove successful. We were helpless. We tried our best to make it a success. I also held several meetings separately with scientists, economists and farmers in this connection and a policy is being formulated as an outcome of those meetings. The hon. Prime Minister has also said that a comprehensive Insurance Policy for all crops should be implemented for which a separate provision will have to be made. I know that we have been making efforts in this regard for the last 20 years. Like all other hon. members, we are also of the opinion that if a provision can be made for the people working in industries, why not for farmers. But the condition in different region varies from one place to the other. At one place the climate creates hindrance while at the other place the crop pattern is different, the showing a method is different. Then there are other factors like rain, availability of water or drought situation. All of these have to be tackled..(Interruptions) Separate provisions will be made for the states having adequate rainfall and those facing frequent droughts. The Government propose to implement comprehensive policy in one district of a particular State on experimental basis this year. Some of the hon. Members were in favour of making it compulsory while other were in favour of making it voluntary. If everything goes on smoothly, it will be implemented in the entire state so that the system may function smoothly.

At the same time, natural calamities strike quite frequently in our country, creating great difficulty. We depend on nature and there is uncertainty nowhere as much as it is in the field of agriculture. Sometimes seeds are damaged while at other times there is drought. Sometimes there are floods. Similarly diseases break out

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hailstorms, cyclones damage crops. We can do nothing in such situations. We face many problem on this serve.

Every day we get new facts about natural calamities. Cut Motions have also been moved regarding the action being taken and the relief being provided by us. The Ninth Finance Commission was earlier constituted in this regard and now the Tenth Finance Commission has been set up. If they change the scheme now then it is a different issue. But the scheme of Rs. 804 crores is still under implementation. Under this scheme, the Central Government gives Rs. 603 crores and Rs. 201 crores are provided by the States. The Centre provides this fund in four instalments. Wherever there has been drought, we have provided funds for them. Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa were covered under this scheme. Recently, the hon. Prime Minister has visited Jawahr Rozgar Yojana and Accelerated Water Scheme but the actual implementation of all these schemes has to be seen.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): No funds have been given to our State till now.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We had already sent and it is lying there. I have reports in this regard. We have certainly sent the funds. If the funds have not reached at any place, get it checked and if it is so, we will send the funds. There is no problem in it.

It is being said that there is scarcity of foodgrains. But I would like to tell you that it is not so. The real problem is that people do not have purchasing power and we have to remove this bottle necks of the people by providing the with employemnt. Earlier, Palamu and Garhva areas used to produce a lot of foodgrains. But now they are affected with sever drought. Now we have to find out ways for extracting water form the

ground. It is being said that there is underground water in Palamu and other districts. It has to be seen how much water can be extracted and how much area can be irrigated through this water. It is also right as you have just said that there is no need for additional resources of irrigation. That is why, I am providing 50 per cent grants to you. This is being provided under drip irrigation scheme, so that, less water can do more irrigation. Last year, only 10 thousand hectares of land was covered under it and this year it is being increased to 20 thousand hectares. I want that it should increase to 25 thousand hectares in the coming year, so that more vegetables and crops can be produced and horticulture can also be developed through this drip irrigation scheme. So, more emphasis is being given on this scheme.

As Shri Madhukarji and the hon. Member were drawing my attention towards Champaran in north India, I am ready to pay my attention towards that area. Recently, I had called a meeting, but you did not attend it. Whatever you say, I am prepared to agree with that. I want that you people should come forward for the welfare of the States. It is only the States which do not cooperate with us. What is not available in the States? Only the will-power is needed. If electricity and water are not available, then what can be done. These things cannot be sent from the centre. The State Governments can only provide these things. They should have the will-power to do it the reference of Punjab and Haryana was made in this regard. They had the will to work. It was also a deficit State, but it had improved its situation. We want to help the States when any natural calamity arises, But it is for the State Governments should also remain alert about sending the funds.

Just now, you were talking about the Dunkel Draft. I would like to assure the House as I have just told that our duty is to look after the welfare of the farmers. If anything goes against the interest of the farmers, it is bad. At present, I think nothing can be done because of certain disputes going on. But even then I have said-

[English]

- (1) Naturally occurring genes, howsoever derived, shall not be patented.
- (2) There should be no objection of microbiological processes being patented.
- (3) Effective sui generis system for the protection of plant varieties may be adopted provided two things were taken care of, viz. the farmers rights and the reserachers rights.

[Translation]

I am not going to give this. A doubt was raised that the farmer will produce the seed, but will not be able to sow it in his own field. The people have been misled in this regard. No one is going to accept this misconception today, tomorrow or in future.

[English]

I am not going to barter with any such thing with the freedom on my farmers.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): I would like to seek clarification from the hon. Member whether the farmer who wants to sell his crop, will be able to sell it as per the restrictions imposed by the Dunkel proposals. Please tell whether he will be free to sell his crop. Under the Dunkel proposal, the right of seed multiplication will not be given to the farmer. If he cannot do the seed multiplication, he will not be able to sell his crop. Then, he is finished.

[English]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: He will try to do that. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Will you fight for them?

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): We have a specific cut motion on this. We would like to know the views of the Government of India in the matter. Will you say categorically whether you accept the stipulation of the Dunkel proposal or not? Will you say that categorically? We are an independent country.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: What more categorical statement do you want from me? It is much more than categorical. I am not going to barter with the interest of the farmers.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Regarding Dunkel proposals, other Ministers say something else and the Agriculture Minister says something else. The statement he has made here today, has already been made in the press also. I am afraid that there is much difference of opinion in the cabinet also. The hon. Prime Minister is sitting here. He should at least clearly State his policy regarding the Dunkel proposals and also give details about the policy of the Government in this regard.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: There is no problem and no difference of opinion. So far as agriculture is concerned, you need not worry about it. (Interruptions)

[English]

When I have stated it on the floor of the House, I have said it categorically. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The next point is about Aquaculture. I must tell the House that it is a very important subject. It is one of the upcoming subjects. It is going to be a gold mine for us and we are going to exploit it fully. I am

[Sh. Balram Jakhar]

going to give it a big thrust whether in fresh water or brackish water. It is going to be done. There is so much potential in it and we are trying to get 5 million tonnes in the next two or three years.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): There is acute scarcity of drinking water.

[English]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is with Ministry of Rural Development and they are giving it under the watershed programme. Then water is sinking because we are growing too much. It is not there. It percolates down. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The State Governments are going to provide Rs. 30 thousand crores for the watershed programme. The Centre is providing Rs. 1100 crores. Every State is making programmes for irrigating 500 acres, 1000 acres or 2000 acres of its land. This has given 100 per cent result. Where some work has been done, we would like to provide more for its development.

Regarding machinery, Dada has expressed a doubt whether it will adversely affect our indigenous machinery. There is no such chance. It has been lowered for this year. This will lower the prices also. It is more competitive. We have accommodated the technology. We have exported this technology to other countries also. There is a problem.

[English]

It is more competitive. We are going to do it. I think, I will have to approach the Finance Minister for his help to facilitate the farmers to get more credit.

[Translation]

I am going to mention the credit policy. There is shortage of time. Regarding credit, we want that-

[English]

Without credit there is no agriculture. This is investment oriented today.

[Translation]

Twenty and a half thousand crores of rupees have been kept for the current year in this regard. Out of it, seven and a half thousand crores of rupees have been given for the cooperatives and 11 thousand crores of rupees have been kept for other items.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Under the Dunkel proposals, the farmers will not be given preferential rates even in credit also.

[English]

That will amount to subsidising.

[Translation]

This subsidy will not be provided to the farmers on preferential rate of interest. The Government should clarify about this.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: In my opinion it does not apply on us. (Interruptions)

I have seen it. (Interruptions)

[English]

Though this is not my subject, I have studied it. We will see to it. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, there is '10 per cent less' Clause in it, it will take care of it.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Then about dry-

farming. (*Interruptions*) Dry farming has been given in the Centre. My scientists are doing a lot about nes generation of seeds which can stand drought.

[*Translation*]

We have tried for it. At the same time our efforts have fruitified also. In past we had to import oil seeds and oil worth Rs. 1200 crore. Today we are completely self-dependent.

An hon. Member was saying that we had imported oil. There is on need of its import at all. This year production of oil seeds have been 21.3 million tonnes which is a record. I am always worried about it. Last year I had increased the support price of ground nut by Rs. 105 sunflower by Rs. 130 mustard by Rs. 95 and I felt that if the farmers produce more the prices will decline and this all was done to give him high support price.

Funds have been provided for Dairy Development and poultry. Earlier the production of milk had been 20 lakh tonnes. This year the target of the production is 61 lakh tonnes. But we are trying for this also and new factories are being set up as early as possible so that we can use the production properly. The work pertaining to issuance of licenses etc. will be accomplished within two months and thus the work will be done smoothly.

We are introducing live-stock Insurance Scheme. (*Interruptions*) Please sit down and listen. I also want to launch extension programmes. I want to educate the people in this field, without knowledge there is no scope for development. I have set up 74 more Agriculture Science Centres. In coming two years, one Agriculture Science Centres. In coming two years, one Agriculture Science Centre would be set up in every district during this Five Year Plan, and there will be proper propagation of know how and techniques among people and many of them will be imprinted training for a week or ten days or three months so that they may

have the best kind of cultivation and produce best seeds. You were talking of seeds. In this context I would like to State that the production of seeds was 44 lakh quintals last year and this year it is expected to be to the tune of 57 lakh quintals and I have allocated huge amount for this. After streamlining the work of State Farms Corporation and the National Seed Corporation I would like that all people should work with a team spirit, produce good quality seeds and give them to farmers, we are going to do this work.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: For this item, you have decreased funds which has been mentioned in the Budget.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I have rather increased.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: You have decreased the amount on seeds.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You were telling about some other subsideis. You were talking about fertilizers. In regard to fertilizers, I would like to State that I have also written about it. All had the same opinion, therefore, I did not want any imbalance. For this purpose I had requested the hon. Prime Minister to reconsider this matter. Two three days back our hon. Minister of Finance had given an indication, but that is yet to be materialised. But take it for granted that we would allocate funds to all States in the manner that I did earlier, and try to ensure that States provide fertilizers to farmers at the rate, of the last year. There will be no matter of concern. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you did not reply to my question. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Yes, I am coming to that point.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): The Standing Committee on Agriculture has made three major recommendations. What is the Government's reaction?

MR. SPEAKER: At six o' clock we have to apply the Guillotine.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): What about the subsidy on fertilizers?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I have told just now that the programme is similar to that of the previous year.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Your statement on the fertilizer subsidy is quite circumlocuting. Why do you not speak straight forward?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It is quite clear.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Please tell us. What are you going to do about subsidies on fertilizers?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Three persons are speaking simultaneously, I am not understanding. We will provide subsidy at the similar rate of Rs. 1000 per tonne. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: But what rate will you fix for one bag of D.A.P.? Please tell us clearly.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I have told very clearly that the subsidy on fertilizers would be to the tune of Rs. 1000 per tonne. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: The Minister has not responded to the Standing Committee's recommendations.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am aware of them. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask two questions from the hon. Minister. I have raised certain questions. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The guillotine has to be applied at 6 o' clock.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I raised certain questions. None of my questions was replied. The Government has not clarified its policy on the Dunkel proposals also. You have made circumlocutory statement on the subsidy on fertilizers. It seems to me that you have uttered these words just to get votes. But there is no clear cut policy about farmers. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: There is no circumlocutory statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Rajveerji It is not a circumlocutory statement. If there is any, it has been made in this august House. It has been told that this year also the amount of subsidy would be the same as was in the previous year.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I had asked one more question also. It is related to agriculture insurance. In this regard you had related to agriculture insurance. In this regard you had stated to implement this scheme in a village or a district in a State. But it has not been decided as to from where the premium will be collected. I had asked details of the scheme. But this also has not been replied to.

MR. SPEAKER: All these things have been written in it.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put all the Cut Motions moved to the Demands for Grants

relating to the Ministry of Agriculture to vote together unless any Member desires that any of his Cut Motion may be put separately.

SHRIBASUDEBACHARIA (Bankura): The Cut Motion Nos. 62 and 117 should be put separately. One is on Dunkel proposal and the other is on fertiliser subsidy.

SHRIBRAJAKISHORETRIPATHY (Puri): My Cut Motion Nos 130, 131 and 132 may be put separately.

SHRISOMNATHCHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, my Cut Motion No. 97 is in regard to NABARD. The Finance Minister has now come. It is his jurisdiction. Please tell your friend.

[Translation]

This disinvestment in the NABARD, and privatisation won't do. Please do speak. The hon. Minister of Finance is sitting here. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIBALRAMJAKHAR: No privatisation.

SHRISOMNATHCHATTERJEE: On behalf of the Government of India, you are speaking now, not as a Agriculture Minister only, and saying that there is no disinvestment.. (Interruptions)

SHRIBALRAMJAKHAR: Right Sir. I am saying with the authority now.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I am putting all the Cut Motions except the Cut Motion Nos. 62, 117, 130, 131 and 132 to the vote of the House.

The Cut Motions Nos. 39, 40, 43, 59 to 68, 74, 80, 81, 83, 88, 94 to 98, 101 to 115, 117 to 127, 130-134, 137-142 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: Now I shall put the Cut

Motion Nos. 62 and 117 to vote.

The question is:

"That the Demand under the head Agriculture (page 1) be reduced to Rs. 1.

Failure to reject Dunkel proposals which suggest removal of subsidies on inputs and support prices for agricultural produce." (62)

"That the Demand under the head Agriculture (page 1) be reduced to Rs. 1.

Failure to provide subsidy on fertiliser to the poor and marginal farmers." (117)

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 6 **AYES**

18.05 hrs.

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Advani, Shri Lal K.

Anjalose, Shri Thayil John

Asokaraj, Shri A.

Azam, Dr. Faiyazul

Bala, Dr. Asim

Balayogi, Shri G. M. C.

Baliyan, Shri N. K.

Bandaru, Shri Dattatraya

Barman, Shri Uddhab

Basu, Shri Anil

Basu, Shri Chitta

Berwa, Shri Ram Narain

Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal	Giriya Devi, Shrimati
Bhattacharaya, Shrimati Malini	Gopalan, Shrimati Suseela
Chakraborty, Prof. Susanta	Gounder, Shri A. Senapathi
Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti	Gupta, Shri Indrajit
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath	Hossain, Shri Syed Masudul
Chhatwal, Shri Sartaj Singh	Janarthanan, Shri M.R. Kadambur
Chikhliia, Shrimati Bhavana	Jaswant Singh, Shri
Choudhary, Shri Ram Tahal	Jena, Shri Srikanta
Choudhury, Shri Lokanath	Joshi, Shri Anna
Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin	Joshi, Shri Dau Dayal
Das, Shri Dwaraka Nath	Kalka, Das, Shri
Das, Shri Jitendra Nath	Kanshi Ram, Shri
Datta, Shri Amal	Kapse, Shri Ram
Deshmukh, Shri Chandubhai	Katheria, Shri Prabhu Dayal
Dhumal, Prof. Prem	Kesri Lal, Shri
Dikshit, Shri Shreesh Chandra	Khan, Shri Sukhendu
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra	Khanduri, Shri Bhuwan
Drona, Shri Jagat Vir Singh	Khanoria, Shri D.D.
Dubey, Shrimati Saroj	Koil, Shri Ganga Ram
Fatmi, Mohammad Ali Ashraf	Kumar, Shri Nithish
Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar	Kumar, Shri V. Dhanajaya
Gautam, Shrimati Sheela	Kunjee Lal, Shri
Ghangre, Shri Ramchandra Marotrao	Laljan Basha, Shri S.M.
Giri, Shri Sudhir	Madhukar, Shri Kamla Mishra

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra	Paswan, Shri Chhed
Mahato, Shri Bir Singh	Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Malik, Shri Purna Chandra	Paswan, Shri Sukdeo
Mallikarjunaiah, Shri S.	Patel, Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas
Mallu, Dr. R.	Patel, Shri Brishin
Mandal, Shri Brahmanand	Patel, Shri Chandresh
Manjay Lal, Shri	Patel, Shri Ram Pujan
Marandi, Shri Simon	Patnaik, Shri Somabhai
Maurya, Shri Anand Ratna	Patnaik, Shri Harin
Mishra, Shri Janardhan	Patidar, Shri Rameshwar
Mishra, Shri Satyagopal	Patnaik, Shri Sivaji
Misra, Shri Shyam Bihari	Pramanik, Shri Radhika Ranjan
Mollah, Shri Hannan	Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal
Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta	Premi, Shri Mangal Ram
Mukherjee, Shri Subrata	Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra
Mukhopadhyay, Shri Ajoy	Rai, Shri Lall Babu
Munda, Shri Kanya	Rai, Shri M. Ramanna
Murthy, Shri M.V.V.S.	Rejendra Kumar, Shri S.S.R.
Murugesan, Dr. N.	Rajulu, Dr. R.K.G.
Naik, Shri Ram	Ram, Shri Prem Chand
Narayanan, Shri P.G.	Ram Singh, Shri
Pal, Shri Rupchand	Ramaiah, Shri Bolla Bulli
Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayanan	Ramasamy, Shri R. Naidu
Pasri, Shri Balraj	Rana, Shri Kashiram

Rawat, Shri Bhagwan Shankar

Thakore, Shri Gabhaji Mangaji

Rawat Prof. Rasa Singh

Tirkey, Shri Pius

Ray, Shri Rabi

Todar, Shri Baran

Ray, Dr. Sudhir

Tripathi Shri Lakshmi Narain Mani

Raychaudhuri, Shri Sudarsan

Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore

Reddy, Shri B.N.

Vadde, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao

Roy, Shri Haradhan

Verma, Shri Phool Chand

Shah, Shri Manabendra

Verma, Prof. Rita

Shakya, Dr. Mahadeepak Singh

Virendra Singh, Shri

Sharma, Shri Rajendra Kumar

Yadav, Shri Chandra Jeet

Shastri, Shri Vishwanath

Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad

Singh, Shri Hari Kishore

Yadav, Dr. S.P.

Singh, Shri Mohan

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Singh, Shri Pratap

Yadav, Shri Vijoy Kumar

Singh, Shri Rajveer

Zainal Abedin, Shri

Singh, Shri Ram Prasad

Adaikalaraj, Shri L.

Singh, Shri Ramnaresh

Ahirwar, Shri Anand

Singh, Shri Rampal

Ahmed, Shri Kamaluddin

Singh, Shri Viswanath Pratap

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Soren, Shri Shibu

Ajit Singh, Shri

Soundaram, Dr. (Shrimati) K.S.

Akber Pasha, Shri B.

Swami, Sureshanad

Anbarasu Era, Shri

Syed Shahabuddin, Shri

Anthony, Shri Frank

Tej Narayan Singh

Antulay, Shri A.R.

Arunachalam, Shri M.

Chaudhary, Shri Ram Prakash

Athithan, Shri R. Dhanuskodi

Chaudhri, Shri Narain Singh

Ayub Khan, Shri

Chahre, Shri Bapu Hari

Banerjee, Kumari Mamata

Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D.

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar

Chavda, Shri Ishwarbhai Khodabhai

Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh

Chennithala, Shri Ramesh

Bhagat, Shri Vishweshwar

Chidambaram, Shri P.

Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan

Chinta Mohan, Dr.

Bhardwaj, Shri Paras Ram

Chowdary, Dr. K.V.R.

Bhatia, Shri Raghunadan Lal

Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh

Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindhu

Dada hoor, Shri Gur charan Singh

Bhonsle, Shri Prataprao B.

Damor, Shri Somjibhai

Bhonsle, Shri Tejsingh Rao

Das, Shri Anadi Charan

Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh

Das, Shri Ram Sunder

Birbal, Shri

Deka, Shri Probin

Brar, Shri Jagmeet Singh

Delkar, Shri Mohan S.

Brohmo Chaudhury, Shri Satyendra Nath

Dennis, Shri N.

Buta Singh, Shri

Deora, Shri Murli

Chacko, Shri P.C.

Deshmukh, Shri Anantrao

Chaliha, Shri Kirip

Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan

Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal

Devarajan, Shri B.

Chandrasekhar, Shrimati Margatham

Devi, Shrimati Bibhu Kumari

Charles, Shri A.

Dighe, Shri Sharad

Chaudhary, Shri Kamal

Digvijaya Singh, Shri

Farrok, Shri M.O.H.

Jeevarathinam, Shri R.

Fernades, Shri Oscar

Jhikram, Shri Mohanlal

Gajapathi, Shri Gopi Nath

Kahandole, Shri Z.M.

Galib, Shri Gurcharan Singh

Kairon, Shri Surinder Singh

Ganit, Shri Chhitubhai

Kale, Shri Shandarao D.

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Kaliperumal, Shri P.P.

Gehlot, Shri Ashok

Kamal Nath, Shri

Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh

Kamat, Shri Gurudas

Giriappa, Shri C.P. Mudala

Kamble, Shri Arvind Tulshiram

Gogoi, Shri Tarun

Kamson, Prof. M.

Gomango, Shri Giridhar

Kaniithi, Dr. Viswanathan

Gudadinni, Shri B.K.

Karreddula, Shrimati Kamala Kumari

Gundewar, Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao

Kasu, Shri Venkata Krishna Reddy

Handique, Shri Bijoy Krihsna

Kaul, Shrimati Sheila

Harchand Singh, Shri

Kewal Singh, Shri

Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh

Khan, Shri Aslam Sher

Imchalemba, Shri

Khursheed, Shri Salman

Inderjit, Shri

Konathala, Shri Rama Krihsna

Islam, Shri Nurul

Krishna Kumar, Shri S.

Jaffer Sherief, Shri C.K.

Krishnaswamy, Shri M.

Jakhra Shri Batram

Kshirsagar, Shrimati Kesharbai Sonaji

Jatav, Shri Bare Lal

Kuli, Shri Balin

Jawali, Dr. B.G.

Kumaramangalam, Shri Rangarajan

Jayamohan, Shri A.

Kuppuswamy, Shri C.K.

Kurien, Prof. P.J.	Nawale, Shri Vidura Vithoba
Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri	Nayak, Shri Subash Chandra
Malik, Shri Dharampal Singh	Netam, Shri Arvind
Mallikarjun, Shri	Nikam, Shri Govindrao
Mallu, Dr. R.	Nyamagouda, Shri S. B.
Mane, Shri Rajaram Shandarrao	Odeyar, Shri Channaiah
Manphool Singh, Shri	Padma, Dr. (Shrimati)
Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.	Pal, Dr. Debi Prosad
Masood, Shri Rasheed	Palacholla, Shri V. R. Naidu
Mathew, Shri Pala K. M.	Pandian, Shri D.
Mathur, Shri Shiv Charan	Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav
Meena, Shri Bheru Lal	Panja, Shri Ajit
Meghe, Shri Datta	Panwar, Shri Harpal
Mirdha, Shri Ram Niwas	Patel, Shri Harilal Nanp
Mujahid, Shri B. M.	Patel, Shri Praful
Munda, Shri Govinda Chandra	Patel, Shri Shravan Kumar
Muniyappa, Shri K. H.	Patel, Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai
Muralee Dharan, Shri K.	Patil, Shri Anwar Basavaraj
Murthy, Shri M. V.	Patil, Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas	Patil, Shrimati Surya Kanta
Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh	Patil, Shri Uttamrao Dcorao
Naik, Shri G. Devaraya	Patil, Shri Vijay Naval
Naikar, Shri D. K.	Patil, Shri Yeshwantrao
Nandi, Shri Yellaiah	Patra, Dr. Kartikeswar

Pattanayak, Shri Sarat Chandra

Reddy, Shri M.G.

Pawar, Dr. Vasant Niwritti

Reddy, Shri R. Surender

Peruman, Dr. P. Vallal

Roshan Lal, Shri

Pilot, Shri Rajesh

Sadul, Shri Dharmanna Mondayya

Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram

Sahi, Shrimati Krishna

Prabhu, Shri R.

Sai, Shri A. Prathap

Prabhu Zantye, Shri Harish Narayan

Sajjan Kumar, Shri

Pradhari, Shri K.

Sangma, Shri Purno A.

Rahi, Shri Ram Lal

Sanipalli, Shri Gangadhara

Rai, Shri Kalp Nath

Satrucharla, Shri Vijayarama Raju

Rai, Shri Ram Nihoar

Sawant, Shri Sudhir

Rajeshwaran, Dr. V.

Sayeed, Shri P.M.

Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava

Scindia, Shri Madhavirao

Raju, Shri Bh. Vijayakumar

Selja, Kumari

Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S.

Shankaranand, Shri B.

Ram Badan, Shri

Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal

Ramamurthy, Shri K.

Sharma, Capt. Satish Kumar

Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally

Shastri, Shri Rajnath Sonkar

Rao, Shri J. Chokka

Shingda, Shri D.B.

Rap, Shri P.V. Narasimha

Shivappa, Shri K.G.

Rao, Ram Singh Col.

Shukla, Shri vidyacharan

Rao, Shri V. Krihsna

Siddhartha, Shrimati D.K. Tharadevi

Rath, Shri Rama Chandra

Sindal, Shri S.B.

Rathva, Shri N.J.

Silvera, Dr. C

Reddaiah Yadav, Shri K.P.

Singh, Shri Abhay Pratap

Reddy, Shri A. Indrakaran

Singh, Shri Arjun

Reddy, Shri A. Venkata

Singh, Shri Khelsai

Reddy, Shri G. Ganga

Singh, Shri Motilal

Reddy, Shri M. Baga

Singh, Kumari Pushpa Devi

Singh, Shri S.B.

Upadhyay, Shri Swarup

Singh Deo, Shri K.P.

Urs, Shrimati Chandra Prabha

Singla, Shri Sant Ram

Vandayar, Shri K. Thulasiah

Sodi Shri Manku Ram

Verma, Shri Bhawani Lal

Solanki, Shri Surajbhanu

Verma, Shri Shiv Sharan

Subbarao, Shri Thota

Verma, Shri Upendra Nath

Sukh Ram, Shri

Verma, Kumari Vimla

Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati

Vijayaraghavan, Shri V.S.

Sultanpuri, Shri Krihan Dutt

Vyas, Dr. Girija

Sundararaj, Shri N.

Wasnik, Shri Mukul Balkrishna

Suresh, Shri Kodikkunil

Williams, Shri R.G.

Swamy, Shri G. Venkat

Yadav, Shri Arjun Singh

Tara Singh, Shri

Yadav, Shri Ram Saran

Thakur, Shri Mahendra Kumar Singh

Yadav Shri Satya Pal Singh

Thangabalu, Shri K.V.

**Yadav, Shri Sharad

Thomas, Prof. K.V.

Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan

Thorat, Shri Sandipan Bhagwan

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction, the result* of the division is:

Thungon, Shri P.K.

Ayes: 146

Tindivanam, Shri K. Ramamurthee

Noes: 250

Tope, Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb

The Motion was negated.

Topno, Kumari Frida

Tytler, Shri Jagdish

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put cut motions No. 130, 131 and 132 moved by Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy to the vote of the House.

Umbrey, Shri Lacta

* The following Members also recorded their notes:

Ayes: Sarvshree Dr. Rajagopalan Sridharan, K.P. Unnikrishnan, Venkteswara D. Rao, Sharad Yadav, Devendra Prasad Yadav, Tarachand Thandelwal, Rajesh Kumar, Dr. G.L. Karanjia, Surendra Pal Pathak, Rudrasan Choudhary, Jeewan Sharma.

Noes: Sarvshree G. Madegowda, Pawan Diwan, Dalbir Singh, P.C. Thomas

** Wrongly voted for Noes.

The cut Motions Nos. 130, 131 and 132 were put and negatived.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, These lights are not working.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Only red light is bright. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I regret. But I hope the red lights are not red rags!

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants of the Ministry the question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day on March, 1994, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands No. 1 to 4 relating to the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Motion was Adopted.

Demands of Grants (General) for 1993-94 in respect of the Ministry of Agriculture noted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of for Grants voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
Ministry of Agriculture					
1.	Agriculture	213.93.00.00	2.26.00.000	1113.37.00.000	12.49.00.00
2.	Other services of Dept of Agri & Cooperation	36.21.00.000	34.35.00.000	188.48.00.000	171.72.00.000
3.	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	71.67.00.000	358.33.00.000
4.	Department of Animal Husbandary and Dairying	61.46.00.000	29.10.00.000	307.56.00.000	145.52.00.000

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL)
FOR 1993-94 IN RESPECT OF THE
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND
FERTILIZERS, THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL
AVIATION AND TOURISM, ETC.

The Question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on the Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the sixth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1994, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the fourth column thereof

18.10 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the outstanding Demands for Grants relating of the Ministries/Departments to vote.

against:-

Broadcasting.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Demand Nos. 5 and 6 relating to Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers. | (16) Demand No. 57 relating to Ministry of Labour. |
| (2) Demand Nos. 6 and 8 relating to Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism. | (17) Demand Nos. 58 and 59 relating to Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs. |
| (3) Demand No. 9 relating to Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution. | (18) Demand No. 60 relating to Ministry of Mines. |
| (4) Demand No. 10 relating to Ministry of Coal. | (19) Demand No. 61 relating to Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. |
| (5) Demand Nos. 11 and 12 relating to Ministry of Commerce. | (20) Demand No. 62 relating to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. |
| (6) Demand Nos. 13 to 15 relating to Ministry of Communications. | (21) Demand No. 63 relating to Ministry of personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. |
| (7) Demand No. 23 relating to Ministry of Environment and Forest. | (22) Demand No. 64 relating to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. |
| (8) Demand No. 24 relating to Ministry of External Affairs. | (23) Demand Nos. 65 to 67 relating to Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation. |
| (9) Demand Nos. 25 to 27, 29, 30, 32 to 37 relating to Ministry of Finance. | (24) Demand Nos. 68 relating to Ministry of Power. |
| (10) Demand No. 38 relating to Ministry of Food. | (25) Demand Nos. 69 and 70 relating to Ministry of Rural Development. |
| (11) Demand No. 39 relating to Ministry of Food Processing Industries. | (26) Demand Nos. 71 to 73 relating to Ministry of Science and Technology. |
| (12) Demand Nos. 40 and 41 relating to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. | (27) Demand No. 74 relating to Ministry of Steel. |
| (13) Demand Nos. 47 to 50 relating to Ministry of Human Resource Development. | (28) Demand Nos. 75 to 77 relating to Ministry of Surface Transport. |
| (14) Demand Nos. 51 to 54 relating to Ministry of Industry. | (29) Demand No. 78 relating to Ministry of Textiles. |
| (15) Demand Nos. 55 and 56 relating to Ministry of Information and | (30) Demand Nos. 79 to 81 relating to Ministry |

(36) Demand No. 88 relating to Department of Space.

(31) Demand No. 82 relating to Ministry of Water Resources

(37) Demand No. 89 relating to Lok Sabha.

(32) Demand No. 83 relating to Ministry of Welfare.

(38) Demand No. 90 relating to Rajya Sabha.

(33) Demand Nos. 84 and 85 relating to Department of Atomic Energy.

(39) Demand No. 92 relating to Secretariat of the Vice-President.

(34) Demand No. 86 relating to Department of Electronics.

The Motion was adopted.

(35) Demand No. 87 relating to Department of Ocean Development.

MR. SPEAKER: The outstanding Demands for Grants relating to the Ministries/Departments are passed.

Demands for Grants (General) for 1993-94 in respect of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, etc. voted for Lok Sabha.					
No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers					
1	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	13,42,00,000	4,15,00,000	67,10,00,000	20,75,00,000
2	Department of Fertilizers Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism	815,03,00,000	34,27,00,000	3476,81,00,000	171,33,00,000
3	Department of Civil Aviation	10,63,00,000	1,96,00,000	53,17,00,000	9,77,00,000
4	Department of Tourism	14,44,00,000	3,78,00,000	72,18,00,000	18,88,00,000
Min of Civil Supplies Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution					
5	Min Civil Supplies Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	4,92,00,000	21,00,000	24,58,00,000	1,05,00,000
Ministry of Coal					
6	Ministry of Coal	28,83,00,000	127,70,00,000	144,17,00,000	638,50,00,000

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30 th March 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs	Capital Rs	Revenue Rs	Capital Rs
1	2	3		4	
	<i>Ministry of Commerce</i>				
7	Department of Commerce	115.59 00 000	6.98,00,000	577.96,00,000	34,93,00,000
8	Department of Supply	4 67,00,000		23.34,00,000	
	<i>Ministry of Communications</i>				
9	Min of Communications	1.75,00,000		8.94,00,000	
10	Postal Services	281.38,00,000	11.20,00,000	1406.88,00,000	56,03,00,000
11	Telecommunication Services	1170.95,00 000	847.83,00,000	5854.75 00,000	4239,16,00,000
	<i>Ministry of Environment and Forests</i>				
12	Ministry of Environment and Forests	60.41,00 000	1.20,00 000	302.03,00,000	6,02,00,000
	<i>Ministry of External Affairs</i>				
13	Ministry of External Affairs	116.34,00,000	8.30,00,000	581.69,00,000	41,48,00,000

No of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs	Capital Rs	Revenue Rs	Capital Rs
1	2	3		4	
Ministry of Finance					
14	Department of Economic Affairs	83,80,00,000	24 11 00 000	418 00 00 000	120 56 00,000
15	Currency, Coinage and Stamps	82,24,00,000	59 46 00 000	411 18 00 000	297 28 00 000
16	Payments of Financial Institute	183,06,00,000	1288 54,00,000	915 32 00 000	6442 70 00,000 -
17	Transfers to State Governments	1047,69,00,000	26,67 00,000	5238 42,00 000	133 33 00 000
18	Loans to Government Servants etc		40 83 00 000		204 17 00 000
19	Department of Expenditure	1,52,00 000	1 13 00 000	7 63 00 000	5 63 00 000
20	Pensions	123,77,00,000		618 87 00 000	
21	Audit	57,14,00 000		285 71 00 000	
22	Department of Revenue	29,32,00,000	23 00 000	70 73 00 000	1 16 00 000
23	Direct Taxes	54,33,00 000	16 67 00 000	271 65 00 000	83 33 00 000
24	Indirect Taxes	96,85,00,000	23,89 00 000	434 24 00 000	119 47 00 000

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30 th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
	Ministry of Food				
25	Ministry of Food	541,45,00,000	22,12,00,000	2707,26,00,000	110,61,00,000
	Ministry of Food Processing Industries				
26	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	6,80,00,000	1,71,00,000	33,99,00,000	8,55,00,000
	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare				
27	Department of Health	133,25,00,000	43,43,00,000	666,27,00,000	217,46,00,000
28	Department of Family Welfare	245,76,00,000	3,00,000	1228,81,00,000	12,00,000
	Ministry of Human Resource Development				
29	Department of Education	347,73,00,000	9,00,000	1808,23,00,000	43,00,000
30	Department of Youth Affairs and Sports	20,70,00,000	8,00,000	103,47,00,000	38,00,000
31	Art and Culture	25,96,00,000	—	129,80,00,000	—

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
32	Department of Women and Child Development	100.16.00.000	86.00.000	500.78.00.000	4.28.00.000
<i>Ministry of Industry</i>					
33	Department of Industrial Development	134.38.00.000	15.00.000	671.92.00.000	77.00.000
34	Department of Heavy Industry	26.49.00.000	41.36.00.000	132.48.00.000	206.81.00.000
35	Department of Heavy Industry	26.49.00.000	41.36.00.000	132.48.00.000	206.81.00.000
36	Department of Public Enterprises	24.00.000	—	1.20.00.000	—
37	Deptt. of Small Scale Ind. & Agro and Rural Industries	62.71.00.000	58.38.00.000	313.58.00.000	291.91.00.000
<i>Ministry of Information and Broadcasting</i>					
38	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	16.77.00.000	3.33.00.000	83.83.00.000	16.63.00.000
39	Broadcasting Services	175.19.00.000	43.53.00.000	875.95.00.000	217.66.00.000

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
	<i>Ministry of Labour</i>				
40	Ministry of Labour Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs	75.87,00,000	12,00,000	379,35,00,000	59,00,000
41	Law and Justice	16.83,00,000	—	84,16,00,000	—
42	Department of Company Affairs	2,50,00,000	1,00,000	12,49,00,000	—
	<i>Ministry of Mines</i>				
43	Ministry of Mines Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	28,62,00,000	6,28,00,000	143,09,00,000	31,42,00,000
44	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	32,36,00,000	1,67,00,000	161,82,00,000	8,37,00,000
	<i>Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs</i>				
45	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	19,00,000	31,00,000	54,54,00,000	1,55,00,000

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions				
46	Ministry of Personnel Public Grievances and Pensions	10,91,00,000	31,00,000	54,54,00,000	1,55,00,000
	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas				
47	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	43,00,000	44,40,00,000	2,17,00,000	221,99,00,000
	Ministry of Planning & Programme Implementation				
48	Planning	14,89,00,000	3,06,00,000	74,46,00,000	15,29,00,000
49	Department of Statistics	9,22,00,000	3,00,000	56,92,00,000	17,00,000
50	Department of Programme Implementation	14,00,000	—	71,00,000	—
	Ministry of Power				
51	Ministry of Power	81,19,00,000	400,90,00,000	405,96,00,000	2004,50,00,000

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30thh March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
Ministry of Rural Development					
52	Department of Rural Development	1254,26,00,000	1,13,00,000	3763,30,00,000	5,62,00,000
53	Department of Wastelands Development	8,37,00,000	—	41,88,00,000	—
Ministry of Science and Technology					
54	Departmet of Science and Technology	51,38,00,000	5,42,00,000	256,91,00,000	27,10,00,000
55	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	51,04,00,000	1,48,00,000	255,21,00,000	7,42,00,000
56	Department of Bio-technology	13,68,00,000	1,00,00,00	68,42,00,000	5,00,00,000
Ministry of Steel					
57	Ministry of Steel	7,55,00,000	69,67,00,000	37,77,00,000	348,35,00,000
Ministry of Surface Transport					
58	Surface Transport	17,82,00,000	9,12,00,000	89,08,00,000	45,57,00,000

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
59	Roads	76,15,00,000	112,78,00,000	380,77,00,000	563,92,00,000
60	Ports, Lighthouses and Shipping	35,10,00,000	44,79,00,000	175,48,00,00	223,92,00,000
	Ministry of Textiles	119,06,00,000	40,30,00,000	595,30,00,000	201,51,00,000
	Ministry of Urban Development				
61	Urban Development and Housing	44,03,00,000	39,70,00,000	220,13,00,000	198,51,00,000
62	Public Works	49,98,00,000	24,92,00,000	249,89,00,000	124,60,00,000
63	Stationary and Printing	21,22,00,000	83,00,000	106,11,00,000	4,17,00,000
	Ministry of Water Resources				
64	Ministry of Water Resources	58,92,00,000	5,19,00,000	294,61,00,000	25,96,00,000
	Ministry of Welfare				
65	Ministry of Welfare	94,16,00,000	10,32,00,000	470,78,00,000	51,59,00,000

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
	Department of Atomic Energy				
66	Atomic Energy	93,21,00,000	104,64,00,000	466,08,00,000	523,22,00,000
67	Nuclear Power Schemes	73,60,00,000	29,89,00,000	388,01,00,000	149,44,00,000
	Department of Electronics				
68	Department of Electronics	8,80,00,000	2,46,00,000	104,13,00,00	12,27,00,000
	Department of Ocean Development				
67	Department of Ocean Development	7,91,00,000	1,27,00,000	39,82,00,000	7,141,00,00
	Department of Space				
68	Department of Space	106,77,00,000	12,87,00,000	533,86,00,000	64,35,00,000
	Parliament, Secretariats of President and Vice-President, Union Public Service Commission				
69	Lok Sabha	5,64,00,000	—	28,22,00,000	—

No of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30th March, 1993		Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
70	Rajya Sabha	5,64,00,000	—	9,20,000	—
71	Secretariat of the Vice-President	5,00,000	—	26,00,000	—
	Total Revenue/Capital	13281,69,00,000	5033,08,00,000	61710,36,00,000	25167,65,00,000

18.15 hrs.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make a small announcement regarding the sitting of the House today.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes; that was done yesterday itself.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: I just wanted to inform the hon. Members that dinner is available between 8.30 p.m. and 10.30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

Now, we are going to take up the Appropriation Bill and after the Appropriation Bill is passed, I think, there is one notice given by Shri Ram Naik which has to be taken up. There are two or three points which he has raised, one of the points was discussed last year also, but I think he is insistent that that point should be discussed this year too. I am going to allow him. After that, we are going to take up the Finance Bill also. We have decided to sit late to give opportunities to some of the Members who would like to express their views on the Finance Bill also. We are trying to recoup the loss of time. The voting on the Finance Bill will take place tomorrow.

Now, the hon. Home Minister will make a statement.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER- CONTD.

(ii) Communal Violence in Manipur.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): The communal situation in Manipur has generally been stable. In particular, the relations between the Meitei and the Muslim communities have been harmonious.

However, on 3 May 1993, arising from a minor dispute between two parties over a monetary transaction, there was a sudden outbreak of communal clashes between the two communities in the Lalong Bazar village of the Thoubal District. The violence spread very quickly to communally sensitive pockets in the Thoubal and Imphal districts.

The State Government took action to contain the violence and the Army was put on alert. Units of Assam Rifles conducted flag marches in the affected areas. State and Central para-military Forces were called out and deployed in strength in the affected areas in the valley. Curfew was imposed in the Thoubal and Imphal districts at 6 p.m. on 3 May. The curfew is continuing.

According to the report received from the State Government, 68 persons have died, 78 persons have suffered grievous injuries and are undergoing treatment in hospitals in Imphal.

About 700 women and children from the minority community have been given shelter in local schools and are being provided with food and other necessities.

In a high-long operation, 109 anti-social elements have been arrested in two districts. More arrests are being made.

The situation is tense but under control. No fresh cases of violence have been reported today. All aspects of the situation having a bearing on the maintenance of public order in Manipur are receiving continuous attention.

APPROPRIATION (NO.2) BILL *

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the

services of the financial year, 1993-94.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year, 1993-94."

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: I introduce the Bill. **

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: I beg to move: *

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year, 1993-94 be taken in to consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year, 1993-94 be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Speaker, sir, I would like to speak on three issues. The first point is regarding corruption in Khadi and village Industries Commission which is under the charge of hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Industry. Last year also while speaking on Appropriation Bill I had levelled corruption charges which were proved later and charges were regarding the sale of blankets made by the some woolen mills by the Khadi and

village industries and registration of several institutions by it directly on 21st April 1, When I raised a question regarding it the Minister of Industry had told that direct registration has been banned. I have a telex message sent by Khadi Commission on 26th April in this regard which says:-

[English]

"Hence the Director should process them and complete the details as per earlier approved checklist and see that they are sent to Joint CEO latest by 1st May, in Bombay by speed post, if necessary, enabling to process them within 5th May, as directed by Commission."

[Translation]

It means that the Commission continued the direct registration of institutions. The term of Khadi Commission and tenure of its Chairman will be over on 8th May. It is my submission to the Prime Minister that corruption and lacunae in the functioning of Khadi Commission should be removed. You please appoint such persons in Khadi Commission who have good character, image, respect and affection for Khadi.

My second point is related to Shri Arjun Singh, the Minister of Human Resource Development. In Bombay, there is a famous museum named Prince of Wales, which was established in 1905. The Prince of Wales museum is working under the Museum Act which has been formulated by the Maharashtra Government. This is a very good museum visited by foreigners and VIPs. In spite of discussion between the Maharashtra Government and the Central Government for years this museum has not been accorded a status of national museum. In principle Central Government has given recognition to this issue

* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Sh. Ram Naik]

but neither any rules have been formulated in this regard nor the Maharashtra Government has repealed the National Museum Act. So I urge upon the Government to bring a Bill regarding National Museum. On behalf of the people of Maharashtra, I request you to change the name of this museum as Chhatrapati Shivaji Museum instead of Prince of Wales Museum.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my third point is that I have raised the issue earlier also, there should be a Constituency Fund consisting of Rs. 2 crore, for proper functioning of Members of Parliament for their constituency's development. I raise this demand again. Last year also the hon. Prime Minister had told that he would think over it and the whole House supported this demand on 20th March during the discussion on the vote on account and Appropriation Bill. Mr. Speaker Sir, you also had assured to decide the matter at the earliest. So, I again request the Prime Minister to make statement on the demand of constituting and M.P. Constituency Fund consisting of rupees two crores. (interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Hon. Prime Minister would like to say something.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is the response from the Government side on these points?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Sir, Shri Ram Naik referred to the point about the Prince of Wales Museum. The position is as under. It is true that there was some discussion and in principle a decision was taken. But following things have to be done to bring this into effect. The Government of Maharashtra has been requested to repeal their Act in the first instance with the proviso that the repeal will take effect from the date of notification of the Central Act. The Central Act is more or less ready. As soon as that intimation comes to us from the

Maharashtra Government, we will proceed with the matter.

SHRI RAM NAIK: What about naming the Museum?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Name comes subsequently.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Name will come necessarily when you are drafting the Bill because the present name is 'Prince of Wales Museum'. When you are drafting the Bill now, the name of the Museum will have to be taken into account.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: We will keep that in mind.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Naik has raised a point about the constituency fund, that is, parliamentary constituency wise. Last time, the prime Minister stated that it will be referred to appellate authority. It is for the appellate authority to ponder about this question. If it is decided, I think whatever demands are there, will be examined and decision taken.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have assured us to find out some solution or this will be implemented through Jawahar Rozgar Yojna.. We are clapping..

PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Who will not be happy be clapping..... (Interruptions)

[English]

When the point was first raised, I had said that I would consider, the Government would consider this. Even now, I feel inclined. But I cannot make a categorical statement right now. I will require

some time to work out how this could be fitted into the general position of the Budget here.

In Maharashtra, for instance, this has been going on for a long time. They have, more or less, perfected it. But a long time. They have, more or less, perfected it. But in many other States this has not been done. I do not know about Andhra. It must be a new phenomenon. But we will study all those things and come back to the House.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK: What about the Khadi Commission? Nothing has been said about it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: You have not clapped?

MR. SPEAKER: Please clap. Have you understood its meaning?

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: I once again the Prime Minister for making this announcement and I also request him to say something about the Khadi Commission, the term of which is going to expire.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister was on his legs. He is trying to reply to it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): Sir, the point raised by the hon. Member was to investigate the corruption charges and illegal acts of commission and omission of khadi Village Industries Commission. Sir, time and again, I have answered this question in Parliament that these corruption charges have been gone into and we have taken appropriate action. We have given directions to the Commission not to register new societies or new institutions for manufacture of

Khadi including polyvastra except in areas connected with special employment programmes. No new institutions for village industries should be directly financed, aided by the KVIC. In individual cases, they should be financed by the State KVI Boards. KVICS should immediately review the functioning of the institutions which have been registered during the last three and a half years and we have asked for a report from the Commission. Regarding the reconstitution..

SHRI RAM NAIK: But they have sent a fax message that on 5th of May, they are going to finalise the list of Direct registrations.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: We have given instructions not to go ahead.

SHRI RAM NAIK: But they are not following your instructions.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: We have given instructions on 29th of April to the Commission, not to sanction any new institutions. Regarding the reconstitution, we will take care of the points that have been raised by the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1993-94, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That schedule, clause 1, the enacting formula and the long Title stand part of the Bill".

Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted

18.40 hrs.

[English]

FINANCE BILL, 1993

MR. SPEAKER: Now we shall take up the consideration of the Finance Bill. 10 hours have been recommended by the Government for all the three stages of the Finance Bill, 1993. If the House agrees, we may have seven hours for general discussion, two hours for clause by clause consideration and one hour for third reading. And today, we may work for five more hours to give opportunities to the Members to discuss the different aspect of this Bill.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Balpur): We would like to know as to when the voting will take place tomorrow, so that the Member can be informed and it will be helpful to every section of the House. It will be helpful if we can understand when the voting will be there tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Any time after 6 o'clock.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): It has to be concluded by tomorrow midnight because 6th is a holiday. So, you have to take up the voting before tomorrow midnight.

MR. SPEAKER: We will pass it tomorrow itself. We will have to sit late tomorrow also.

Now the Minister may move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittigarh): I rise to seek a clarification are the amendments to the Finance Bill going to be moved now?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN (Badagra): After he moves the Finance Bill.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central for the financial year 1993-94 be taken into consideration."

Sir, I had explained the main features and rationale of the proposals in the Finance bill while presenting the budget in this House on 27th February, 1993. I am greatly heartened by the strong support voiced by so many Hon'ble Members for the proposals of the Finance Bill. Many Hon'ble Members have made suggestion for some modifications in the course of the general debate of the Budget. Suggestions have also been received from the general public and from trade and industry. I have given these suggestions the most careful consideration and I propose to make some changes in my original in view of these suggestions.

Before doing so, I would seek the indulgence of the House to reiterate the context in which this Budget is being moved and the basic rationale of the tax proposals.

Sir, over the past 22 months we have embarked on a far reaching programme of economic reform to restore the health and

dynamism of our economy and set this nation on a sustainable path of economic growth to raise the living standards of all our people, especially the poor. Such reform was long over due. As I said in my first Budget speech, the programme of reform will take some years to implement. And we will have to overcome many obstacles, before we reach our goal.

As I have stated on several occasions, we must continue the process of fiscal consolidation. This is critical for keeping inflation in check and reducing pressure on our balance of payments. Over the past two years we have reduced the fiscal deficit very substantially. For 1993-94, it is estimated at 4.7 per cent of GDP. Next year we plan to reduce it further to 4 per cent or less.

Central to our programme of economic reform is tax reform. We had a tax structure, which was unduly complex, economically unjustifiable in many respects and unsatisfactory in its administration. The ills of this tax system, as well as the necessary remedies, have been convincingly analysed by the reports of the Tax Reforms Committee headed by Prof. Raja J. Chellai. Following the recommendation of this Committee we have embarked on a comprehensive reform of both direct and indirect taxes in this and the last Budget.

The full programme of tax reform will be implemented by the end of the 8th plan. But the final objective is clear. We will move to a tax system, which is simple, has a wide base with moderate rates to tax, is well administered and, most important, promotes economic efficiency, growth and equity. Necessary measures will include extension in the coverage of MODVAT to new areas, phased reduction in customs tariffs, elimination of wasteful and complex exemptions in customs and excise, steps to improve and modernise the administration of all major taxes and gradual progress to a full value added tax system in consultation with State Governments. Broadening the base of taxation is essential for continuing with the process of rationalising rates of customs and

excise duties and for implementing the corporate tax recommendations of the Tax Reforms Committee.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Members to the proposal I had made in the Budget for providing a five year tax holiday for new industrial undertakings set up in backward States and in the power sector, under the provisions of section 80-I-A of the Income Tax Act. This proposal has been very widely welcomed and I share the optimism of the large number of people who believe that the tax holiday will provide a major thrust for power generation and for the development of backward States.

A large number of representations have, however, been received on behalf of other States requesting for inclusion of backward districts of those States for the purposes of section 80-I A. Hon'ble Members would appreciate that the tax holiday provision, proposed in the Budget, includes only those States in which all the districts are industrially backward and, as a result, the State is unable to mobilise resources for industrialisation. It is these States for which a strong fiscal support for industrialisation is very vital. For other States, fiscal support in the form of a 25 to 30 per cent deduction for new industrial undertakings has been available since 1.4.1991. However, we will explore methods for enhancing fiscal support for new industrial undertakings in industrially backward districts of States which are not, as a whole, classified as backward. I propose to appoint a group to look into this matter.

The existing provision of section 80-I-A stipulates that the new industrial undertaking should commence production or manufacture by 31.3.1995. This would have restricted the proposed tax holiday for the backward States and the power sector only to those which commence production after 1.4.1993 but before 31.3.1995. Considering that the setting up of power units of new industries in backward States is sure to take sometime, I propose to extend the time limit for the date of commencement of

[Sh. Manmohan Singh]

manufacture or of generation of power by these new undertakings from 31.3.1995, at present, to 31.3.1998.

Many members of the House and the general public have called for raising the exemption limit for personal income taxation. This House will recall that the limit was raised from Rs.22,000 to Rs.28,000 in the Budget of 1992. Nevertheless, recognising the hardships imposed on the common man by even the reduced rate of inflation, and in deference to the wishes of Hon'ble Members, I propose to increase the exemption limit further to Rs.30,000.

Hon'ble Members would recall that in the Budget of 1992, a major restructuring of personal taxation was undertaken. This included reduction in the tax rates at all levels, rising of the exemption limit and withdrawal of some of the fiscal incentives. The monetary ceiling of deduction under section 80 L was fixed at Rs.7,000. I have since been receiving a large number of representations suggesting that the monetary ceiling under section 80 L needs to be raised to provide an added incentive for savings in the form of financial assets. Accordingly, I proposed to amend section 80 L in order to enhance the monetary ceiling to Rs.10,000. The new ceiling will apply to income from all eligible instruments. This proposal will stimulate mobilisation of small savings, bank deposits as well as investments in capital market assets.

I would now like to present to you the modifications relating to indirect taxes.

The reductions in customs duty introduced in the Budget have been widely welcomed by many sections of industry as a step towards reducing cost of production and making our industry more competitive. Duties in many areas are still too high for competitiveness and we need to do more to achieve our goals. As I indicated in my Budget speech, we have to move

to a regime of low to moderate customs duties for efficient and competitive industrialisation. Our medium term objectives in this regard have been spelt out in the 8th Plan document. However, we recognise that this has to be a phased process in which the interest of Indian Industry need to be fully safeguarded. I have received a number of representations from the trade and industry pointing out certain anomalies in the import duty structure in which raw materials and components attract much higher rates of duty than finished products. I have carefully considered these representations and am proposing some changes, bearing in mind our long-term goal of a rational Customs tariff structure as well as revenue considerations.

The Tax Reforms Committee has already recommended that normally there should not be any exemption from countervailing duty of customs since such exemption discriminates against the domestic manufacturers producing these items. Accordingly, I propose to have a review conducted of the countervailing duty exemptions so as to remove such exemptions to the extent feasible.

I also propose to make certain modifications in customs and central excise duties in those sectors of the industry where it is required urgently. On caustic soda, the exemption from countervailing duty is being removed now because of the difficulties being faced by the domestic producers. In the case of specified equipments for manufacture of caustic soda, based on membrane cell technology, I propose to reduce the import duty from 40% to 35%.

To make our iron and steel industry competitive, I had reduced in the Budget, the import duty on specified refractory raw materials including Dead Burnt Magnesite from 70% to 30% in respect of certain grades which are not made in India. There are apprehensions that this reduction may adversely affect the domestic industry. I, therefore, propose to adjust the import duty on such refractory materials upwards from 30% to 50%.

The Hon'ble Members would recall that in the Budget, import duty on steel melting scrap was raised from 10% to 15% as part of rationalisation of import tariff for iron and steel. I have received various representations from the secondary steel sector for reducing this duty. In order to give some relief to the mini steel plants, I propose to reduce the import duty from 15% to 12.5%.

As part of the Budget proposals, import duty on several items of capital goods has been reduced to 35%. In order to encourage the growth of automobile component manufacturing industry, I propose to extend this reduced rate to moulds, jigs, fixtures, dies, etc. for the manufacture of auto components which are currently attracting 50%. Specified components and parts of motor vehicles bear a concessional import duty of 50%. To give further stimulus to domestic manufacturers of automobile components and parts, I propose to reduce the import duty on specified goods which are mainly used in the manufacture of automobile components from a general level of 85% to 50%.

In order to encourage indigenous manufacture of certain telecom equipments, I propose to reduce the import duty on modules and sub-assemblies for their manufacture from 85% to 60%.

To encourage indigenous manufacture of certain electronic components, I propose to reduce the import duty on diffused silicon wafers from 75% to 35%. In addition, I propose to levy countervailing duty as applicable on such silicon wafers. Facility of set off under MODVAT for this countervailing duty is already available.

I am proposing to reduce the import duty on industrial diamonds in dust or powder form, from 85% to 40% and valorem, to provide relief to domestic cutting tool industry.

I also propose to reduce the excise duty on ceramic sanitary ware of porcelain or china from 45% to 30%.

In the Budget, I had proposed to enhance the limit for exemption from excise duty in respect of unregistered small scale units from Rs. 7.5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs. I propose to increase this limit to Rs. 30 lakhs. This would benefit a large number of small scale units.

In the Budget, import duty on metals has been reduced generally, but that on their raw materials, namely ores and concentrates was not reduced in all cases. I propose to generally reduce the import duty on ores and concentrates to a level not higher than the duty payable on the unwrought metals.

I am also proposing to reduce the basic customs duty on certain life saving drugs and equipments which generally attract 85% to 10%.

I am also proposing to further reduce import duty on grand parent poultry stock from 40% to 30% in order to improve the quality of our poultry stock and thereby help exports.

Under section 129 E of the Customs Act, 1962 and section 35 F of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, the Collector (Appeals) or the Appellate Tribunal has powers to grant stay of deposit of duty demanded or penalty levied. In the Budget, I had proposed amendments to these sections seeking to provide that such deposit shall be made prior to filing of appeal instead of during the pendency of appeal. It was also proposed that the power of dispensing of such deposit before the Collector (Appeals) shall be exercised by the Principal Collector. Representations have been received from the Trade, Industry and Hon'ble members of Parliament that such requirement of pre deposit before filing of appeal would cause undue hardship to the appellants. In deference to the said representations and on the advice of the Ministry of Law and Justice, I propose to omit sub-clause (3) of both clauses 42 and 44 of the Finance Bill, 1993.

I do not propose to take up the time of the House by dealing with a few other amendments

[Sh. Manmohan Singh]

the hon. Finance Minister.

in the Bill which are merely by way of drafting changes or are of procedural or consequential nature.

18.47 hrs.

(HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

The exemption notifications relating to the above changes in the indirect taxes will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Taking direct and indirect taxes together, the changes I have proposed are expected to result in a net revenue loss of Rs. 125 crores to the Centre and Rs. 304 crores to the States.

Finance Bill has an important place in the budget procedure. Financial Bill is such a machinery by which parts of the Government machinery are oiled through tax. I think that this should be discussed with great intelligence and seriousness.

I request the Hon'ble Members to lend their support to the Finance Bill with the modifications I have proposed.

Hon. Finance Minister has made some points during the recent discussion on the Finance Bill viz the steps taken for economic and financial reforms, how and how much the rate of inflation has been decreased, the measures adopted by him to reduce the budget deficit. But there is a great difference between the statement of Finance Minister and actually seen and felt by the public. He may make claim about controlling the inflation and improving the balance of payment position but the decision of getting a loan of nine thousand million dollars indicates the hollowness of his economic policy. You please think over the relevance of this decision in the light of improving the balance of payment position. Loan may be a separate unit but it is related to the economic policy. Whatever you have said regarding financial reforms or control on the market but actually there had been no reform in the market between the period of presentation of budget and Financial Bill. The rates of consumer goods have increased, especially in retail market. Financial Bill systematises the direct and indirect taxes. For that I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Chelliah Committee has given a report in this regard? I would like to know your opinion regarding the report and the steps you are going to take regarding its implementation as also recommendations that you are going to accept from the Chelliah Committee report? You please clarify your opinion about the direct taxes. I would like to repeat that during the period between the presentation of budget and Financial Bill, the budget, and revenue deficit has not been made good. You have estimated a deficit of

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Normally, we will get the statement by tomorrow. With these important changes, we have to speak here. Today, of course, we are handicapped. So, at least, this statement should be circulated to the Members by night today so that those who are speaking tomorrow can go through it.

MR. SPEAKER: We will try to do that.

There are no amendments at the consideration stage. If there are amendments at the stage of clause-by-clause consideration, we will take them.

Motion moved:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1993-94, be taken into consideration."

Now Shri Pandeya to speak.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say something about the Finance Bill presented by

Rs. 7000 crore for 1993-94, which was a wrong estimate as the deficit has gone up to Rs. 13000 crore. This time also you have estimated the deficit but what will be the actual amount it would be known later. Achievements of your taxation policy in the field of direct, indirect taxes, revenue receipt and making good the deficit will be known later. I would like to say that the taxation system should be easy and clear in every sphere whether it is direct, indirect or any other type of tax.

I would like to know the criteria you have adopted for framing the taxation policy. I would like to get your opinion about the Chelliah Committee report and would also like to know whether you have accepted it or not also the recommendations which you have accepted for implementation. Changes in taxation policy is a continuous process throughout the year whether it is direct, or indirect taxes. The present Finance Bill also has been amended in many respect and there are some proposals in it. You cannot be sure about them. What type of economy you are going to establish either planned or mixed, we do not know because multinational companies are being invited by you to establish their base here.

Just now you have said regarding providing exemption from taxes on textile import.

The Government is reducing custom's duty while excise duty should be reduced before custom's duty. So Government should reconsider its decision of reduction in customs duty. Government has announced reduction in import duty. This has affected the indigeneous production adversely. There are many such industries with indigeneous production in the country which would be badly affected by this exemption. I would like to point out towards telephone industry. With the newly announced exemption on the import of components of telephones, the indigeneous telephone industries would be on the verge of closure because the imported components would be cheaper while the indigeneous production would be dearer and it would adversely affect the industries. What would the country export?

I would like to submit something in regard to iron scrap. The import is increasing continuously. The State of Mini Steel Plants is getting worse day by day. The imported iron has been made dearer. It becomes difficult to get it because one has to approach influential people. I would not like to go into the details. It is only available to industrialists with political links. The small industrialists have to approach these people. Gradually the Mini-steel plants would be on the verge of closure if the present situation continues. I would like to seek clarification from the Ministers in this regard. I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the injustice being done to industries as a result of the exemptions given to imports. I would like to know about the type of assistance that would be given to these industries which are facing crisis. I have pointed towards Mini Steel Plants and telephone industry. I would like to submit about the amendments which I have moved. I have proposed an amendment in the clause whereby on page 1 in lines 13 to 16 reference has been made to "the conditions where para 1 and sub para 2 of first schedule is in force". "Where the net agricultural income of the assess is exceeding Rs. 600 apart from the total income during the preceeding year." In that case above said sub para (1) is enforced.

Where income exceeds Rs. 28,000 the said sub para (2) is enforced. I had given amendments in this regard. Similarly lines 44 to 53 on page 2 should be omitted. Matter relating to surcharge in lines 9 and 10 on page 3 should be omitted. On page 3 lines 11 and 12 and 17 to 19 should be omitted. I have proposed an amendment that Rs. 50,000 be substituted in place of Rs. 28,000.

Sir, I would like to submit that the ceiling of income tax exemption should be raised to Rs. 50,000 because in the past when this demand had been raised it was said that it would be considered, but no attention has been paid to this. I would like to substitute Rs. 50,000 in place of Rs. 28,000. The Minister of Finance has informed about an increase of Rs. two thousand. For surcharge, the hon. Minister had submitted

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya]

that it is temporary and it would be withdrawn later on. I would like to submit that the surcharge should be withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to replace 1 April, 1994 in place of 1 April, 1993 on line 18 of page 14. Lines 18 to 26 on Page 19 should be omitted. Lines 36 to 40 on page 19 should also be deleted. Lines 18, 19, 22 to 25 on page 20 should be omitted. Lines 43 to 45 on page 20 should be omitted and lines 3 to 7 on page 23 should also be omitted. *(Interruptions)* This amendment is related to surcharge and increasing ceiling of income tax limit.

19.00 hrs.

Sir, with regard to Page 23 which refers to the rate of income tax I would like to submit that the following should be replaced. In place of lines 2 to 31 on page 23. Where the total income is more than Rs. fifty thousand but less than Rs. One lakh. According to Schedule I where the income is not more than Rs. fifty thousand, they do not pay income-tax. Where the income exceeds Rs. 50,000 but less than Rs. 1,00,000, 20 per cent of the amount by which the income exceeds Rs. 50,000. Thirdly, where the total income is more than Rs. one lakh but less than Rs. two lakh, Rs. ten thousand rupees plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 10,000. Where the total income is more than two lakh, Rs. 40,000 plus forty per cent of the amount by which total income exceeds Rs. 2,00,000.

I would request for the deleting lines 81 to 39 on page 23 and lines 7 to 13 and 20 to 24 on page 24. I would like to submit regarding the rates of income tax as given on page 24. The following should be substituted in place of line 26 and 27 on page 24 "not upto the income of Rs. 50,000 and forty per cent on income exceeding Rs. 50,000."

Similarly lines 28 to 31 and 36 to 39 should

be deleted on page 24. Lines 12 to 14 should be omitted on page 25.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the rates of income tax should be fixed in such away that the pensioners, poor, middle class and fixed income groups are benefited. The ceiling of income tax should be raised to Rs. 50,000 and thereafter it should be calculated on the basis of the Table.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, research apparatus and equipment has been exempted from taxes but nothing has been said about research apparatus used in cancer treatment and medical research. This should be clarified. To what extent the exemption has been given. I have submitted that surcharge should be withdrawn. The minister of Finance has already given an assurance to this effect. It has not yet been withdrawn although it has been submitted again and again that it is under active consideration and would be withdrawn. It is our firm opinion that surcharge should be withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it does not seem that there would be any change from what has been said in the Finance Bill. No clarification has been given regarding reduction in excise duty on classified items so as to safeguard the interests of indigenous industries. The Government wants to there is no clear cut police boost foreign investment in the country, but as to how the NRIs would be encourage so that this objectives is achieved.

Government has said that exemption would be given for setting up powerplants in the backward areas. The Government has identified and selected these areas. Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are backward areas. It is not necessary that the entire State should be backward. Even if some areas are backward the State should be treated as backward. Thirty three per cent of the population in Madhya Pradesh is tribal and therefore the State is backward. The exemption on import of steel, cement and fertilisers could adversely affect the industry. Today fertiliser industry is badly affected because imported

D.A.P. is being dumped in the market. The surcharge on direct and indirect taxes should be withdrawn. Besides, more concessions should be given to working women, fixed income groups and Hindu undivided families.

The concession on the income on fixed deposits has been reduced. So people are investing their money elsewhere and this is adversely affecting financial position of the banks. So, the policy should be changed to improve the financial position of banks so that more resources are mobilised.

Conducive conditions should be created where common man starts investing his money and the bank could function smoothly. I would like to strongly support the demand of raising the income-tax exemption limit to Rs. 50,000. The Government should pay attention towards my proposal regarding women. The Government should also see that the exemption on the imports does not adversely affect industries. It should pay attention towards the industries manufacturing communication equipment. Our taxation system should help in promoting indigenous production and exports and make the country self-reliant.

[English]

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take this opportunity of congratulating the hon. Finance Minister for having presented a very bold Budget to the people of this nation.

The Finance Bill is an instrument to enforce and implement the creative and nutritive Budget, as has been termed by the famous economist and jurist, Shri N.A. Palkhivala. He calls Shri Manmohan Singh, not a minister, not a politician, but a technocrat and an expert economist in his own right.

If the House will recall, when Shri Manmohan Singh took over as the Finance Minister of this country three years ago, he had requested for a

time of minimum three years to put had requested for a time of minimum three years to put this country back on its tracks. I feel that in the last three years, he has emerged with flying colours. He has lived up to the expectations and in his own words, "Decisive action in critical areas is more important than marginal improvement on all fronts." He has followed this policy and he has emerged all successful.

No wonder, Shri Manmohan Singh has been named as 'Asia's Finance Minister for 1993-94' by a very famous magazine 'ASIAMONEY' a leading financial publication of Asia from Hongkong.

While the first Budget 1991-92 presented by him was by and large a crisis management and fire-fighting Budget to overcome the delicate balance of payment crisis in this country, to enhance the foreign exchange reserves and to contain the sky-rocking inflation, the next Budget presented by Shri Singh was aimed at giving a definite direction and growth orientation to the economy of the nation towards achieving a fiscal balance, mainly containing the budgetary deficit and curbing inflation, while giving partial mobility to the rupee in the world currency market paving the way for free float towards integration of Indian economy with global economy.

The 1993-94 Budget is obviously a landmark in the economic history of India when Shri Manmohan Singh has taken a bold step allowing full convertibility on trade account to the Indian rupee and introducing a unified exchange rate ensuring complete integration of Indian economy with the world system.

So much so that his critio, Prof. Madhu Dandavate has also said that it has been a dynamic Budget. He has also termed it as pro-growth and pro-poor".

A section of the press had expressed apprehensions that the full convertibility of the Indian rupee on the trade account would give rise to inflationary trend. But what followed is just the

[Sh. Shravan Kumar Patel]

opposite, as happened in the last couple of weeks, the inflation which was 6.9 per cent come down to 6.5 per cent.

The Finance Minister has managed to bring down the budgetary deficit to just Rs. 4,314 crores well within the range of 5 per cent of GDP.

For the first time in India's fiscal history, the Finance Minister has given massive reliefs in Indirect Taxes to the tune of Rs. 4,522 crores. The stimulus in the form of excise and customs duty reliefs, enforcement of unified exchange rate, combined with the change in the credit policy and reduction in the SLR for banks would inevitably revive the industry and stimulate growth.

Sir, I wish to repeat again that in the words of Shri Palkhivala, Dr. Singh is the first Finance Minister after 45 years, who has realised that human capital is the most precious form of capital. He has given considerably increased allocations for the social sector, mainly education and health.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I am on a point of order. On the screen the name of the speaker is indicated as 'Shrimati Suryakanta Patil'. So, that should be corrected.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, we give direction for them to correct it.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Sir, the provision for education is 37 per cent higher and for health it is 60 per cent higher than in the preceeding year.

Mahatma Gandhi used to say that India lived in its villages. Budgetary allocations made by Dr. Singh for the rural and agricultural sector represent a hike of around 60 per cent for Rural Development and over 30 per cent for agriculture over the last year's provisions. He has also provided appreciable increase for infrastructural

sector. For example, Sir, for the energy sector, he has allocated 50 per cent, and 27 per cent for communications and over 20 per cent for Transport, which are necessary for all round development of economy of our nation.

In this context I would fail in my duty if I overlook the low allocations for irrigation year after year, which forms an essential component in agricultural development, and when over 70 per cent of India's population depends and derives its sustenance from agriculture. Allocation for irrigation last year was only Rs. 231 crores and the revised estimate was even lower at Rs. 206 crores and the present budget allocation is only Rs. 275 crores. This is so when over 60 per cent of the irrigation potential of our rivers and water resources goes unutilised year after year. The hon. Minister would look into this aspect and would take appropriate action.

Sir, I would now come to some suggestions. As my colleague who started with the Finance Bill has mentioned, I also feel that although I understand that there are resource constraints, yet I feel that if the income-tax exemption limit was to be raised marginally, lot of people would stand to benefit.

Sir, the International Monetary Fund study has brought out that what we are allowing by way of farm protection is far too low as compared to about 45 per cent of domestic price on an average allowed in industrialised countries, while in developing countries like India, Argentina, Brazil, China and Mexico it averages to only 3 per cent of domestic price. Even under the Dunkel draft, if adopted, at least 10 per cent of the value of agricultural output is the aggregate of the measure of support permissible, which includes subsidies for promoting self-reliance and food security. Sir, I feel that here is enough margin still available within which the Finance Minister may consider extending further support for agricultural sector which forms the backbone of India's economy.

Sir, while Dr. Singh has successfully brought

down the budgetary deficit and inflation rate, the expected reduction in prices of consumer goods has not yet come about to the extent envisaged. While consumer durables have registered some decline, in the prices, the non-durable consumer goods have not shown any perceptible decline; in some cases their prices have increased.

In the matter of effecting economy and austerity in Government expenditure, not much success seems to have been achieved. The expenditure incurred on tours of Ministers has reportedly gone higher by 536 per cent in 1992-93 over that in the preceding year and the expenditure on entertainment by 250 per cent. I feel that there is obviously some room for effecting economy in such expenditures.

Sir, withdrawal of surcharge on various companies as promised last year is very much overdue and needs reconsideration. Similarly, I feel that the Finance Minister should bring in such legislations so that the people tend to go more for savings.

Being a man of sports, I must welcome the provision of 100 per cent deduction for sports promotion ventures. However, I would like to point out to the hon. Finance Minister, that while in the Sixth Plan the funds available were to the tune of Rs. 14 crores, in the Seventh Plan it was enhanced by the late Prime Minister of this country Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Rs. 200 crores, whereas in the Eighth Plan it is merely enhanced to Rs. 200 crores. I feel that the hon. Finance Minister should also look into the aspect of giving encouragement to sports.

I am also happy to State that 125 per cent weighed deduction in respect of research and development has been provided by the hon. Finance Minister.

In respect of speedy industrialisation of backward areas, the hon. Finance Minister has mentioned even today, in Clause 15 of the Finance Bill, I would suggest that the Eighth Schedule should be reviewed and revised to

include some more regions. In this respect, I would like to State that even though Jabalpur town in Madhya Pradesh is indicated as a big town, yet there is hardly any industry which has come up. So, that should also be included in the backward region.

Sir, last but not the least, population explosion is the gravest and greatest menace to our economy which threatens the development and nullifies all the efforts that we put. So, I would suggest that the hon. Finance Minister, in consultation with the hon. Minister for Health and Family Welfare, should go into this aspect and evolve a comprehensive scheme incorporating tax incentives for maintaining a small family and tax disincentives for having larger families.

With these few words, I thank you very much for having given me the time to participate in this debate.

[Translation]

DR. S.P. YADAV (Smbhal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Finance Bill because the hon. Minister of Finance or the Congress Government have never fulfilled their promises.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to remind the hon. Minister that the Congress Party in its election manifesto in 1991, had promised to bring down the prices within 100 days. However, two years have passed and the price rise is rather at its peak. Similarly, at the time of by-election for New Delhi constituency in 1992, the Congress candidate Shri Rajesh Khanna had promised the voters to get the income tax limit increased to Rs. 60,000. But even that promise was not fulfilled. The Finance Bill presented by the hon. Minister also indicates that the assurances given in it will prove false. In view of the prevailing circumstances I fail to understand the working of the Government.

The Government has decontrolled prices of molasses on 28th April, which has not been

[Dr. S.P. Yadav]

discussed in the House. It is a matter of great importance that hon. Minister Shri Kalpnath Rai has been saying for the past one month that the Government is going to decontrol molasses. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs which comprises eight members and is headed by the hon. Prime Minister met on 28th April in the evening and decided to decontrol molasses. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Kumari Jayalalitha has said that her Government would oppose it and would not implement it. The Chief Minister of Gujarat has also said that the Government would oppose it and would not decontrol molasses. Uttar Pradesh is under the President's rule and the Chief Secretary of the State wrote to the Central Government that it should not be decontrolled. 25 Members of Parliament have also given a memorandum to the hon. Prime Minister that molasses should not be decontrolled. It will have serious consequences but the Government has not agreed. The former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and Shri Balram Singh Yadav, the Minister in the Congress Government also wrote to the Government not to decontrol molasses. There is no elected Government in four major States of the country. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to remind the Government that this matter relating to decontrol of molasses is a State subject and the Central Government cannot decontrol it without consulting State Governments. What is the outcome? The sugar lobby has got a free hand and it seems to be done at the behest of sugar lobby and the liquor lobby. These two lobbies persuaded the Government to decontrol molasses.

Such policies formulated by the Central Government will have serious consequences. But I would like to say clearly that at least the Government should maintain the dignity of the House so that the country does not suffer. This would result in increased distribution/supply of molasses gradually all over the country and the liquor business will flourish and those

businessman will make a fortune. The Government has liberalised licensing policy for industries. There is no need to get a licence to start some industries but for farmers no attention is being paid. There is restriction on free movement of essential commodities like wheat etc. from one State to another. No such provision has been made in this budget or the Finance Bill.

Besides this, on the one hand 10-12 industries in telecommunications sector are being set up in the country and on the other hand the Government has exempted and given heavy concession in import duty and excise duty on import of telecommunication apparatus. When goods manufactured in the country will be expensive and imported goods would be cheap, the production of industries set up in the country will suffer and those industries will become sick units. Consequently, the Government would have to provide financial assistance but even then they would not revive and will have to be closed. Then the Government will use several methods to recover money from them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say that the Government is harsh with those who take small amounts of loan and does not delay recovery whereas no action is taken against big industrialists who take heavy loans. I would like to inform you that Rs. 175 crore of the Government is outstanding against Modi industries but no action is being taken to recover it. The hon. Finance Minister is present in the House, I would like to draw his attention that Rs. 175 crore of Punjab National Bank is outstanding against Shri U.K. Modi, a rich industrialist of Modi Nagar but the Government is not taking any step to recover it from him. On the other hand if small amount of Rs. 10,000 or 20,000 or even Rs. 50,000 is outstanding against any poor farmer, he is put behind the bars and his property is attached and he is tortured. Contrary to it, no action is taken against big industrialists.

I would like to ask three questions from the hon. Minister of Finance about telecom industries

likely to be set up in country. I would like that the hon. Minister will keep it in mind while replying to the debate.

[English]

Is the hon. Minister aware that with the implementation of the above proposals relating to the telecom sector, it will be cheaper to import an equipment from abroad rather than develop it in India?

Is the hon. Minister conscious of the fact that the scheme of duties and taxes proposed by him will annihilate indigenous manufacturers in the telecom sector and make the country totally dependent on foreign suppliers of all times?

Will the hon. Minister kindly have a re-look in the Budget proposals in the light of difficulties expressed by the indigenous telecom industry and be pleased to suitably modify his proposals so as to remove the disadvantage to which the indigenous manufacturers will be put to, as a result of his Budget proposals?

{ Translation }

I would like to put these three questions to the hon. Minister. I hope that he will consider them.

* Besides this, now I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to taxes. Shri Rajesh Khanna had promised during his Election Campaign that ceiling of income tax exemption would be raised upto Rs. 60 thousand but I would like to say that even if it is raised upto Rs. 50 thousand the people would have a sigh of relief. You don't know how our employees make their both ends meet.

In its report Chelliah Committee recommended not to impose surcharge but the Government has not accepted this recommendation. Last year, the Government had promised to accept it but the Government has not done anything in this regard so far. The Chelliah Committee had recommended about saving limit of Rs. 40-50

thousand but the Government has not accepted it and virtually rejected it. Earlier, all the employees used to save under N.S.S. Scheme because 100 per cent rebate was allowed in this scheme but the Government has not given any signal to restart this scheme.

Perhaps you don't know that all savings schemes were successful because of the pressure of D.M., S.D.M. or tehsildar level officers. They used to pressurise people to save money. If a person applied for the licence of a gun, they used to ask him to deposit money in NSC scheme. But the Government does not know the difficulties of the public. Therefore, my submission is that if the Government revives all the savings schemes, the employees will ultimately and automatically start saving money.

Along with this, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that money collected from these saving schemes was directly given to the State Governments and they used to utilise that money for the development of the State. The State Governments used to get a huge amount for the development works but now under this system the development fund is nil. Therefore, I request you to revive some saving schemes in this regard.

Besides, the Chelliah Committee made one more recommendation which provides for twenty seven and a half per cent of Tax for those who fall in the income group of rupees fifty thousand to rupees two lakh. But even this was not accepted by the Government. I feel that there is a slump in the share Market as the proposal of financial Bill does not provide any incentive for saving.

Regarding the issue of rural development I would only advise you to go round the villages of Uttar Pradesh to see how the funds allotted in the Budget for the purpose of rural development are being used. The situation is not worth looking at. The work in the name of development there is zero.

The allotment of funds for Education is made.

[Dr. S.P. Yadav]

but the development in the field of Education remains miserable. Primary Education has virtually come to a stand still. When the Government makes allotment of Budget, it should also monitor the development process. There are severe irregularities even in the field of secondary and University Education. Question papers that are published are wrong. There is one question in the beginning but the remaining whole paper is blank. There is severe deterioration regarding the direction of Education. I would like to submit that the Government should also make some improvements in the implementation system along with the provisions in the Budget so that some progress may be seen.

With these words I conclude and would submit that some improvement must be made. I oppose this Finance Bill.

[English]

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah): Sir, with Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Finance Minister, the budget making exercise has become an arithmetical exercise, devoid of social responsibility and political sensitivity. The concern of the Finance Minister is not the vulnerable sections of the people but his concern is to contain the fiscal deficit and the pruning of expenditure.

Sir, the Budget and the Finance Bill have lost its sanctity because of the administered price hike that has been made before the Budget and the railway freight and fair increases.

Again, Sir, the philosophy of the Budget and philosophy of the taxation system has not been given due weightage by the Finance Minister. The social objectives of levelling down inequalities of wealth has more than miserably failed. Today, we see more inequality in wealth than ever before. There is more ugly and vulgar display of ostentatious expenditure than ever

before. And there is more conspicuous consumption and celebration than ever before. But the Finance Minister, it seems, has no concern for all these things, and the Finance Bill is rather silent over these aspects of the Budget. The innocent people, if they have been given any look at, it is, there are innocents who have been sent to the slaughter house and no mercy, no consideration for them has been shown in the taxation proposals.

We always speak of the fact that there is in our country a parallel economy. Every year around Rs. 40,000 crore to Rs. 50,000 crore are being generated as black money and if we would tax it in a particular year, we would have garnered around Rs. 12,000 crore to Rs. 20,000 crore which is more than what is collected today by means of direct tax proposals. But this year's Finance Bill too again has no concern for this. In the last year's Finance Bill, when the Finance Minister placed it, the SENSEX index was around 2800 units and when the Finance Minister finished his budget speech it climbed up by 1500 points more.

The then presiding deity of the share market Shri Harshad Mehta proclaimed "India is a turnaround scrip on the global exchange and I am bullish on it." The stock market soared and the Finance Minister basked in the sunshine of the endorsement of his policies. When the spell broke, he said "it is a systems failure."

But this year the picture is quite different. I do not know what answer the Finance Minister has to give. While I took part in the debate on the Finance Bill last year, I told that it has been proposed in such a way that it will develop an equity culture in our country. It has been placed in such a way that we will make our country a speculator's paradise. That came true. When all hopes have gone, the Finance Minister said that it is a failure of the system and before the JPC he said it is because of the mismanagement of the functionaries in the RBI that this situation has been created. We want to know what is the actual answer.

If we go through this year's Finance Bill, we see that a good number of amendments have been made in the direct tax proposals to give concessions to the foreign community and to the investors belonging to the European community and to the investors inside our country. There are amendments in Section 80-IA, Section 10A, Section 115 AD; a new clause 23 (BBB) has been added in Section 10, there is amendment to Section 10 (5B), Section 35 (2A), etc.

Particular mention may be made of the fact that pursuant to the policy to encourage foreign offshore funds and foreign institutional investors it is proposed to tax their income at concessional rate even as compared to non-resident companies. The Bill proposes a new clause 23 (BBB) in Section 10 so as to provide income tax exemptions on any income to the WWC derived in India by way of interest, dividend or capital gains from investments made under any approved scheme with effect from 1994-95.

May I most humbly ask the Finance Minister as to how much foreign investment is actually coming in our country and in what fields? Do you expect that they will come to strengthen our infrastructure and they will come to make us self-sufficient? Is that your expectation?

When the Western economy is burdened with recession, do you expect that more will flow here? Your expectation will not materialise, I think. As the great economist Shackle said, "Expectation is a sort of gambling". So, you are in gambling, when the people of India have been suffering. Sir, the Finance Bill has only tears for the common people, for the innocent and it has cheers for the people belonging to the ruling class, belonging to the big industrialists and landlords.

Again concessions have been given; weighed deductions have been given; proposals for tax holidays are there; hundred per cent deduction for objectives like sports projects, contribution to universities, national foundation for communal harmony, etc. But the question is whether non-

tax objectives should be achieved through the tax laws. I question your basic philosophy. Has ever the tax laws been framed in any country to attain these objectives? Secondly, will not these incentives of the nature under consideration disturb the choice and produce inequities in the allocation of resources? I want a categorical answer from you.

Giving testimony in 1977 before the Ways and Means Committee in the United States of America regarding President Carter's tax proposals on the subject of Investment and Pay Roll Tax Credits, Mr. Rudolph Oswald, Director, Department of Research, AEL-CIO said that these sorts of incentives.

- 1) waste federal revenue through providing benefits to firms of doing what they would do anyway;
- 2) benefit the larger and more prosperous firms that are least in need of federal aid;
- 3) divert federal revenue and attention from realistic solutions.

Tax-give aways have also been adversely commented by the Wanchoo Committee, Choksi Committee and Chelliah Committee too. I will request the Finance Minister to go through the recommendations. The report of the Chelliah Committee says:

"Furthermore, the deductions of ten tend to confer unduly large tax benefits on tax-payers with higher incomes who are more resourceful and who can take full advantage of the tax concessions".

This reduces the progressivity as well as the horizontal equity of the tax system. Still you are giving concessions; you are giving exemptions and all these things, though the proposals and recommendations are there, with you.

Again, I raise a question. Is it realistic to accept that tax-payers can be enthused to

[Prof. Susanta Chekraborty]

undertake philanthropic activities, totally unrelated to their business because of some tax relief? To believe in it, is to believe that tigers can also be asked to eat grass. Please do not make that mistake and throw our economy in the hands of these people.

As regards giving weighted deduction, it may be said that single concession for national universities may not be misused but such a concession is likely to have a chain reaction and others can also demand such benefits. Already FICCI has made a demand for weighted deduction to companies for providing agricultural inputs; already the General Secretary of All India Federation of University and college teachers Association have demanded that this benefit should also be extended to colleges and not limited to universities.

Sir, the political compulsion of serving the political class interests and keeping the fund bands in good humour, further concessions have been given in Income Tax and Corporation Tax not only to the residents of our country but also to the outsiders. In a situation where the external debts have mounted to 71.5 billion dollars at the end of 1991, in a situation where six years of our total exports is equal to our liability towards debt service, I fear that these packages which have been taken by the Government of India in its tax proposals will reduce the country to one more free third world country with an invisible foreign Government represented by the IMF and the World Bank. So, the sovereignty of our country is going to be eroded.

The Finance Minister has also given good many concession in case of indirect taxes. The Customs duty and the Excise duty have been reduced. Excise duty on certain goods had been reduced with the hope that certain industries will not now be in a position to face recession, certain industries will now be in a position to export more. Customs duty has also been reduced with the same end in view.

Import duties have been reduced on many a commodity. Import duties have been reduced on capital goods. In a situation where even the World Bank is of the opinion that India has made inroads into the capital goods industry and has built up the necessary infrastructure, it was the duty of the Government to encourage it; it was the duty of the Government to save it at least for some years. To say, in the name of competition that we want to make it competitive in the world, we have thrown the lot of these industries in the whirlpool of uncertainties.

You speak of Japan. You speak of South Korea. But, they did not follow this path. They first made it competitive, gave it lease of life and only then, they entered into competition. With this atmosphere of opening up the foreign goods that will come here, I am afraid, our industrial scenario will be a different one from what it is today.

This Finance Bill will weaken our industrial base.

This will drive us away from the path of self-sustained economic growth. It is in this situation that you have taken recourse to free floatings of uniform exchange rates. Now, all these combined, will I am sure, increase our import bill in the near future. If it adds to the burden that we already have I want to know from the Finance Minister who will pay the bill, who will pay the debt service ratio? He shall not be there any more. Is he going to pay back this huge external debt and how? Dr. Manmohan Singh will not be there or some other fellow will not be there, when they ask for a pound of flesh, the people of India will be there to give answer.

While there is no quarrel about the objective eventually for exposing our industry to global economy, one foresees some serious difficulty in short term. If the objective behind the removal of import tariff barrier is to promote competitive efficiency in our enterprises, this is also unlikely to be achieved unless it is based over a period of time. What do we mean by competitiveness?

Is it competitiveness with the South? Is it competitiveness with Italy, Brazil or France or is it competitiveness with the United States of America and the United Kingdom? Some of our items are competitive in respect of those countries, but a good number of items are surely not competitive with the United States of America or United Kingdom.

Again we speak of raising tax barrier. But those countries, those countries of free trade in their own countries, have taken recourse to tax barrier in order to strengthen their economy. So, what do we want? Do we want to follow their footsteps? But when they follow the path of creating tax barrier, when they dump goods in our country, when steel in our country is dumped, when even TISCO has to make a complaint about all this, the Government of India seems to sleep, remains silent. This situation cannot be allowed to go further.

As regards corporation tax, some of our friends have said that these people contribute much to our economy. What is the fact? Corporate tax is no more than 11 per cent of the gross tax revenue although corporate activities have enormously broadened during the last decade; rather it shows a downward trend as compared to early 1980s. Contribution of the corporate tax in the aggregate receipts both revenue and capital is only around 6.35 per cent on a 12 yearly average base. Why is the corporate contribution to central revenue so low despite increasing the number of corporate assesses brought to the books of the Income Tax Department? Why per capita contribution is showing a downward trend? The number of companies in the books of the Income Tax Department was more than one lakh as on 31st March, 1991, compared to 77,000 as on 31st March, 1987. But the per capita contribution was 4.49 lakh tonnes in 1990-91 as compared to 4.52 lakh tonnes in 1989-90 and 4.29 lakh tonnes in 1986-87. What all this proves? All this proves a bias, bias towards the rich, bias towards the elitist consumption. Then how do you explain it?

A concession has been given in case of the gift tax. How do you explain that the entire assets and shares have been exempted from the wealth tax. On the other side of the picture there is a failure of the Government to garner more tax, revenues.

I have no time but I will request the hon. Minister to go through the first Public Accounts Committee Report in regard to garnering of the income tax. How much failure is there in regard to the fact that the people who are in the income group range beyond Rs. 10 lakhs or Rs. 5 lakhs, how much tax do they pay? Why are you not trying to bring them into the tax net? Why in spite of your so called green revolution and the fact that the land reforms have not been implemented in the country the big agricultural income remains untaxed. Why is it that devolution of funds from Centre to States is gradually declining? Why do not you amend the Constitution and give some 30 to 40 per cent of corporation tax to the States so that they do not suffer? Do you think in this way a vast country like ours, with diverse economic conditions, diverse social conditions, can prosper? The sense of deprivation, that is there in the States, should be looked after.

But you are not paying any heed to all these. We have been demanding it but the Government is silent on this. Things cannot go in this way, Sir.

I shall now take consideration of tax. For arrangement of consignment tax, we must accept the demands of the States. The collection machinery, the Direct Tax Board needs certain revision. We all know, the Government is going on giving concessions and these concessions are demanded, these exemptions are demanded by the people because of inflationary price rise.

You have failed to neutralise the price level. So what I suggest is an index base tax system. A tax system that will cover the inflationary spiral. Such tax system should be devised and the Government must give thought to all this.

I remember that in case of gift tax, at one time

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there was a tax not only on the donor but the donee also. Now the donees are not to pay tax. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider taxing the donees too and tax harshly the ostentatious expenditure.

20.00 hrs.

I want to know whether the Government will create socio-economic conditions so that the vulnerable sections of the people can live or whether it is going to make our country an abode only for the rich, an abode for the foreign investors, for the International Monetary Fund, that invisible ruler, who is now ruling the Finance Department of our country.

With this, I conclude my speech and I oppose the Finance Bill placed before us by the Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sandipan Bhagwan Thorat.

Now the time allotted for each speaker is from ten to fifteen minutes. It is better that each hon. Member confines himself to 10 or 15 minutes so that more hon. Members can participate.

AN HON. MEMBER: How long are we going to sit?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Today we will sit for a fairly long time.

SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT (Pandharpur): I rise to support the Finance Bill. We are at the last stage of the passing of the Budget for 1993-94. The stage has come now to allow the Government to draw money, whatever they require from the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges. This is an important stage.

20.02 hrs.

(SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*)

The Government expenditure is increasing

considerably. To meet this expenditure, the Government has to raise the funds. The raising of the funds and spending of money have come to have a significant impact on the functioning of the national policy which our hon. prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao has formulated. Though he inherited an empty bag, with stringent efforts and sagacious handling he succeeded in increasing the purchasing power of the different section of the society. That is why I must congratulate him.

No budget can please everyone. Everybody cannot be pleased by the Finance Minister. What is required is that though everybody cannot be pleased, at least the discontent should have been equally distributed among the rival groups and that is what exactly our sagacious Finance Minister has done while formulating this Budget.

If we look at the different sections of the House, the BJP is, to some extent, discontented. The CPI and CPM are also discontented to some extent and the Janata Dal is discontented has been distributed by the Finance Minister very sagaciously. That is why this is a good Budget. If the BJP people look at the portion which has been given to the JD they would say, "The Janata Dal has not been given much. So, it is all right."

The CPI and CPM will say, "This BJP is not given much, so it is all right." That is why I am saying that it is a good budget.

Sir, while supporting this Bill, I have some suggestions. I am worried about the external debts which we are very much bent upon to raise. We are borrowing rapidly. I am afraid that our future generation will have to face a serious crisis, at a great length, this problem of repayment of external debt. I hope, it may not happen true. But the Finance Minister would have to take care that our future generation will not be burdened to repay our debt because these debts are for long-term. The Finance Minister will not be here. I may not be here. But our future generation will come over here and they will say: "Look, our father has done a great loss to us." So, at least see that our future generation will not be burdened.

There is no harm in taking this loan. A developing country on the contrary, must raise the external debt. But the allocation of debt should have been for the productive purposes. If the external debt is judiciously utilised, then it will prove to be immensely beneficial to our nation. But, on the contrary, if we use it wantonly then it will impose severe burden on our future generation. That is why I am worried. If you look, how the external debt is being allocated in the present economy of our country, you will see that most of the money have been allocated wantonly. At this juncture, I may like to state that the Finance Minister must tell us at what rate of interest this debt is being charged because if the rate of interest is much more higher than what you are paying here, on domestic borrowing, then the burden on interest will be automatically converted into capital. And this vicious circle will be created. The interest on foreign debt will be again capitalised. This will result in bad economy. you must tell us what kinds of expenditure you are going into; what are their subsequent stage demand generation effects; what kind of effects does this debt finance expenditure have on the stage of liquidity of the Indian economy; whether the prices will go down definitely; and what will be the effect of this debt go down definitely; and what will be the effect of this debt on supply in keeping with demand. These questions will have to be answered by you.

So far as the foreign debts are concerned, if you take, for instance the Asian Development Bank, finance from this bank is much more. I will quote numerous instances right from the inception of this Bank Fund in our Indian Economy. More than Rs. 1,137 crore have been invested in the power sector. But the power sector in this country does not give any yield except generating more expenditure; and all the power sectors in the country are running in loss. So, I suggest that at this stage, please see that the projects, which you are going to be financed from the external debts, are monitored by the Centre. Please do not give it to the States.

Whatever the effects of that decision may be,

but at least what you are borrowing from the foreign countries, you have to see that the projects which are financed by the external debt, some yield should have been received from those projects. So, monitor these funds properly and watch that they fetch good amount for repayment of the loan. All these projects must show the effective use of productive capacity. Now, all the projects in electricity, in power sector are running in losses. You have to look into this. Please do not say that this is State Subject. You are not here only to allot the money. You have to see whether the money is properly utilised or not and what should be done for this purpose.

The nationalised banks are the very important financial instruments in Garibi Hatao. The Government has taken a decision recently to finance Rs. 1500 crores, Rs. 700 crores it is my knowledge have already been given to the banks. May I know from the hon. Minister how much amount from this share capital has been earmarked for the society? When you are financing for the share capital, naturally, it is your duty to see that according to the population, the credit should go to these poor sections of the society. I think, that this is the time to see that these neglected peoples are taken care of.

We are experiencing the democracy since the last 45 years. The Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and weaker sections of the society are mostly neglected. I will give you some figures in respect of the total allocations made for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes right from the First Five Year Plan. In the First Five Year Plan, the total allocations were made only 2 per cent; in the Second Five Year Plan, it came down to 1.9 per cent; in the Third Five Year Plan, it came down further to 1.2 per cent; in the Fourth Five Year Plan, it was only 1 per cent; in the Fifth Five Year Plan, it went a little bit high, 1.8 per cent; in the Sixth Five Year Plan, it went down to 1.2 per cent and now in the Eighth Five Year Plan, there is not actual percentage worked out. But, I see that there will be not much more than what the preceding Five Year Plans have allocated for the poor sections. So, the time

[Sh. Sandipan Bhagwan Thorat]

has come now that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this country are given share in the national economy, according to the population of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country.

Over the past seven plans a sum of Rs. 4415 crore had been spent on the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes which is barely 1.2% of the total outlay amounting to Rs. 3,60,881 crore.

Sir, just now we have passed the Appropriation Bill. Rs. 2,66,742.78 crores have been provided for this Budget. According to me, Sir, one-fourth of this portion should have been earmarked for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes because this neglected section comprises 25 per cent of the population of the nation. I, therefore, request the hon. Finance Minister to see that a sufficient amount is provided for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

At this juncture I may say that the approach to the Eighth Plan should be according to the population of this section. Among the most seriously affected sections of the population, as a result of development policies pursued so far, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are mostly neglected and hence the amount should be provided for this purpose.

Sir, again I am coming back because this was more important for me the external debt. Sir, I am referring to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economics Affairs) Estimates Committee Report which Mr. Bhakta has submitted to the Parliament. In his Report he has stated that in the deposition before the Committee, the Finance Secretary said that out of Rs. 37,000 crores borrowed, Rs. 24,000 crores went into the investment. The rest went into the Revenue Expenditure. Whatever we borrowed, if we spent on our consumption, we cannot generate any income. If you borrow from other countries

to eat food here, it will not be a good economy. So, you have to follow some guidelines and principles.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Sir, some important point I am raising here.

Sir, debt liability will have to be seen. Some States are allowed to borrow internally and the States overdraw money to pay the charges of their salaries and this is creating imbalance in the economy. Some States have reached a level where fresh borrowings equal their plan outlay. For the whole plan they want to borrow. So, there are two or three factors for this. One basic malady is which the Government of India has started correcting as its Budget position is that the Revenue Account of the State Government is progressively falling into heavier and heavier deficit with the result that for meeting even their normal requirements they have to rely on borrowings. Here, I suggest that if States will borrow for payment of their salaries, why don't you take action against the States? Why don't you suggest that the State is not carrying in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution?

Why do you not invoke Article 356 on those States and dissolve the Assembly?

Sir, a scheme of differential rate of interest is being implemented in the Indian economy and one per cent of the total advances are to be financed for the differential rate of interest. Out of the differential rate of interest of one per cent, 0.40 per cent has to be given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but this amount is also not being advanced to these poor sections of the society. So, I suggest that the scheme of differential rate of interest should be vigorously implemented and much more advances should be made available to these sections of the society. Then, the rate of interest which is being charged by the institutional finances for the industries which are run by Scheduled Caste and

Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs and the cooperatives belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, should be subsidised or the rate of interest should be on par with the differential rate of interest so that the industries of these poor sections of the society may be able to compete in the competitive market. So, I suggest that the cooperative institutions and the individual entrepreneurs belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes should be favoured with the subsidised rates of interest on the institutional finances.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Finance Bill introduced by the hon. Minister of Finance in the House. I oppose it since the Congress Party has not at all complied with the points included in its election manifesto.

The first thing is that so far as the question of giving individual tax is concerned our party had demanded that the minimum exemption limit should be raised from Rs. 28 thousand to Rs. 50 thousand. Besides, we also demanded that the maximum rate of tax should not exceed 40 per cent. We made this demand in view of the fact that the Government employees, the general public and consumers in the country were hopefully waiting for the concessions to be given in this Budget and they were waiting for the raising of income tax limit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, raising this limit from Rs. 28 thousand to Rs. 30 thousand is like a drop in the ocean and which also does not benefit anyone. There was no difference even if this limit of Rs. 28 thousand had been kept unaltered. I would like to demand that this limit should be increased to Rs. 50 thousand. Moreover, the maximum rate of interest should not exceed 40 per cent.

Secondly, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that uniformity in the rate of taxation for the firms as provided in the Finance Bill, 1993

has not been maintained. The Government has made a provision of charging tax on firms on the total income of 40 per cent. I would like to suggest to make an amendment having the provision of exemption on the total income of 50 per cent. Tax on the income exceeding 50 per cent of income should be charged at the rate of 40 per cent. The surcharge on income tax was for a specific purpose and for a specific period. Now it has become a regular feature. It is charged regularly. The State Governments do not get any benefit from it. According to me the provision of surcharge should be removed. The Government is defeating the recommendations of Chelliah Committee by not accepting them. That provision should therefore, be removed. The provision of reduction on N.S.S and N.S.C. had been initiated under a scheme during 1991-92 the above provision was abolished through the Bill that was introduced during 1992. The rebate provided under section 80 C.C.A. and 80 C.C.B. should be restored on the pattern it was done during 1991-92.

[*English*]

In the Finance Act, 1992

"The concept of index cost of acquisition and index cost of any improvement was introduced but no minimum exception limit of Rs. 25,000/- by long-term capital gains should be provided."

[*Translation*]

The Government of India has given exemption in all kinds of wealth tax. But unfortunately, a person in possession of only one house does not get exemption under the provisions of wealth tax. The hon. Minister of Finance has assured that this would be done with effect from 1.4.94. Here I would like to submit that this should be made effective from 1.4.93. The person possessing only one house in his name should be exempted from wealth tax. Under the provision of Finance Act, 1992, the income of minors was clubbed with the income of Parents and it was argued that if the income of minors

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

would be clubbed with that of father of the latter has excess income and if the income of mother is on excess level then the aforesaid clubbing would be made with the income of mother.

[English]

"Minors income should be excluded from the income of the parents."

Taxes of dividends:

"Companies are chargeable to income-tax on their total income after permissible deductions but before dividends payments out of their distributable income, dividends are also taxed at the hands of shareholders which virtually amounts to double taxation of some income. Dividends income at the hands of shareholders should be exempted from tax".

[Translation]

In this way a person will be required to give tax in double way against the dividend. I would like to submit that tax dividend should not be charged when the tax has already been charged once.

For women employees standard deduction is provided on Rs. 18 thousand. The women employees having the yearly income exceeding Rs. 75 thousand will be required to give tax on Rs. 15 thousand. I would like to submit that this limit should be removed. By removing the discrimination being made between women and male employees the limit of Rs. 18 thousand should be fixed for both categories of employees and the limit of Rs. 75 thousand set for women employees should be removed for both male and women employees.

As per the provision the Senior citizens who have attained the age of 65 years get 20 per cent exemption on the gross income of Rs. 75 thousand. This implies there is a provision of the exemption of Rs. 2380. But if the limit touches

Rs. 75,001 then he will not get the exemption of Rs. 2,380. The Government gives an exemption of 20 per cent on the gross income of Rs. 75 thousand. If the income exceeds Rs. 75 thousand even by one rupees, then he will not get the exemption at the rate of Rs. 20 per cent. The Government should also consider this point.

There are similar provisions regarding Family Pension. The Government has made the limit of Rs. 12 thousand.

[English]

This limit requires to be increased in tune with the increase in shared deduction for salaried employees.

[Translation]

On this basis the exemption limit of Rs. 12 thousand in family pension should be raised. This limit in terms of interest and share has been fixed at rupees seven thousand. Earlier it was of Rs. 13 thousand. Money is not being deposited in banks. People have lost faith in banking system. The rate of interest has been reduced. There should be an exemption in the amount of interest upto the limit of Rs. 6 thousand. This will lead to reversal of the earlier system of 7 and 6. Customers will be encouraged to deposit money in banks if tax is exempted upto the limit of Rs. 6 thousand. This will also restore the credibility of the banks.

There should be a system that the payment exceeding Rs. 10 thousand should be made through Bank drafts. Moreover, the Account holders are refused to get bank drafts by the employees of the banks to which their account belong. Other Banks do also decline preparing bank drafts. This system should either be abolished or bank drafts should be made only for the amount exceeding rupees one lakh.

If a person has submitted his account number of income tax and if he happens to suffer a loss than this thing comes to the notice of the Income

Tax Officer. He then feels that the said person must pay tax and the Officer makes 20 per cent additional charge against that person. Consequently, a litigation begins. The Government should rectify the irregularities in the income tax chart if there are any. This will avoid the situation of litigation. The Government has already made a tribunal. Parties having assessment exceeding rupees one lakh will alone go to the tribunal. The Government has fixed the fee amount of Rs. 250 for filling cases in the tribunal. If the amount exceeds by even one thousand after one lakh, then the fee increases by one thousand five hundred. After being invited into the tribunal you should make it only Rs. 500 instead of Rs. 1500.

It also includes tax holidays in industrially backward areas. You have attached a list to it. What is the fault of the people of Bihar? The people of Bihar are very sad to know that they have not been included in it. Bihar should also be included into this list. Eleven desert districts of Rajasthan are very backward ones. A large population of India is badly affected by the drought. The people there, do not get water to drink. You must include Rajasthan as well as Bihar in this list, otherwise you cannot do proper justice to them.

Finally, I want to state that hon. Minister of Finance has said in his speech that people should have a feeling of 'Devvrata'. While making his budget speech in 1991-92 the Minister of Finance had said that it would take at least three years' time to improve the situation. The same thing was repeated during the budget speeches presented by you? How the feeling of 'Devvrata' will be inculcated? It has not been beneficial for the people. Neither the problem of unemployment is on the increase. You had made an announcement regarding protecting the interests of small investors during 1991-92 in the House which followed by a Bank scam and on the other hand the Public sector companies are extorting money from the people by presenting false reports. The share of Indian Petrochemicals which used to be of Rs. 160, has

reduced to Rs. 110 at present and it is the living example of it. Then why have you reduced the relaxation limit of small investors from 13,000 to 7,000? I request you to raise this limit.

I have requested you to raise the income tax limit, it will benefit the small businessmen and Government employees alike and people will praise you. At present you are charge Rs. 1,400 as Income Tax at an income of Rs. 35,000. It is causing embarrassment to the party shopkeepers, therefore I urge you to raise this limit upto Rs. 50,000.

Finally, I want to submit that you do talk about petty shopkeepers but you forget this thing that in such shops instead of a man a whole family works. You always raise the issue regarding providing facilities to the fixed income groups and the Government employees as they are our colleagues, but then what will happen to the economic base of the society? The retailers have always been neglected, therefore you must consider about them. In the last, I want to submit that I have given you 2-4 suggestions, you will certainly raise the income tax limit upto 50,000 and abolish the surcharge. I have also given you suggestions about tribunals and other matters as well. I feel that while giving reply to it, you will accept all such matters. I have presented some amendments before you. I will explain the logic behind those one by one when the same will be taken up for discussion in the House.

Thank you for providing me an opportunity to express myself.

[English]

SHRIM. R KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunneveli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Finance Bill.

At the outset, I want to quote what our political mentor, Shri Anna Durai once told us. He said that "India is a rich country but the Indian people are poor". Our hon. Manmohanji's budget was

praised by all the details and by all media as good but it has not given the needed result to the poor people. Therefore, according to our idea, the budget has not come up to the estimation and expectations of the people.

Sir, I am in this House from Eighth Lok Sabha. I have seen the Finance Ministers from Shri V.P. Singh, Narayan Dutt Tiwari, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, hon. Prof. Madhu Dandavate and for a short period Shri Yashwant Sinha. After him Shri Manmohanji has come. He has not been a political man. He has been in the academic field, he is an economist. And our Prime Minister was right in choosing him. But this budget has disappointed the people because in the 1991 elections which we all faced, the Congress-I manifesto promised to roll back the prices to July 1990 level. The prices have not come down and on the contrary the prices were mounting high up. The tall claim of the Treasury Benches is that inflation rate has come down to one digit. Even though inflation has come down to one digit, the result has not reached the hands of the poor people.

Take for example textiles. The cotton prices have been reduced but it has not reached the people. Also, the Government has reduced a lot of excise in the synthetic fibre but it has not been transferred to the common man. Our Manmohanji promised to the House that if it is not transferred to the customer, then he will have a second look at it. The Hindu paper and the Hindustan Times and even a person like Palkivala who was always criticising the Budget, has praised the Budget.

You must see the same in the Hindu paper writing articles like "Do we need the IMF Loan". Therefore the Treasury Benches should not be happy with The Hindu in their editorials praising the Budget; they must go through these articles written by eminent economists.

World Bank and IMF loans are not new to our

country. Even during Indiraji's and Rajivji's periods we got them. But the difficulty is what were the conditionalities when Indiraji accepted the IMF loan and what are the conditionalities when Dr. Manmohan Singh is accepting the IMF loan. When he is accepting the IMF loan, a man sitting in my village who is having only three of four HP engine is affected. So far he was getting free current. Now the IMF loan conditionality says that the Electricity Boards should show profit. We must understand that in the whole world only we are having the poverty alleviation scheme. With poverty alleviation scheme in our hand we have to see the welfare of the people.

Dr. Manmohan Singh's thinking of getting IMF and World Bank loan as per their conditions is affecting our commonmen. Therefore I would like to say that he must go through these articles.

When Dr. Manmohan Singh came, he announced that five kilos of gold can be brought from foreign countries by those Indians who are sitting there. There was a sudden fall in the gold prices. He now announced a Gold Bond Scheme. The Gold Bond Scheme is a scheme by which the secret wealth of this country should come to the RBI. But you have allotted the target as 500 gms. minimum. The total value of 500 gms. of gold will be equivalent to Rs. 2 lakh. Now you have got gold in Bombay, in the banks of Ahmedabad and in some eight selected metro and big cities. But what about other cities? 500 kilos of gold have come to the exchequer of the Government. They say by the end of June or July another 100 kilos of gold will come. You must understand that gold is the saving of the poor man. I am coming from a village, Kadambur, with 4000 population. You can have at least 300 persons who are having gold of 10 to 15 gms. We must evoke in the people a patriotic feeling. If you bring down the target from 500 gms. to 50 gms. and if the RBI accepts even 50 gms. of gold ornaments and issues bonds, then our Indian people who are supporting us in the elections will have a hand in the scheme. By that among 85 crores of people, not less than one crore of people will be involved in the scheme, so that our

target also can be reached and our patriotic feeling can come to the fore.

But those who are blackmarketeers, those who have got gold biscuits are coming to the bank. Not even one sovereign of gold is coming to the bank. That shows it encourages the rich people, it encourages blackmarketeers, it encourages people with black money. With this gold bond they are able to regularise their black money and they are able to get loans from these gold bonds. If you give the same facility to a man with 50 gms. of gold, then he can also pledge it.

You can see in Tamilnadu so many people are pledging their gold jewels before the harvest season to get loans for agricultural purposes. Therefore the Gold Bond Scheme which is introduced by Dr. Manmohan Singh should be extended to these people also. He must consider it. It must be an Indian people Scheme, so that it is reduced to 50 gms. This is my humble request.

Now, coming to the export side, Shri Pranab Mukherjee has told that we must reach the 15 per cent target. Export is a trade. We cannot thrust upon any country to export; other countries must be interested to buy our goods on the basis of quality and on the basis of price. China is the real competitor for cotton yarn. There is a news item in the paper, 'Observer', saying that Bank of China may re-enter India. After 1962, there is no opening of either Indian Bank in China or China Bank in India. UCO Bank is coming. If you want to improve our trade, we should do something. In 1985, I think, China was inclined to buy our MC-5 cotton. Our Indian soil is so rich that on the export side, we export so much of cotton. This year, they have allowed 15 lakhs of bale and a further eight lakhs of bale of cotton. May I know whether this export scheme and system benefit the cotton growers? The Government is not having any follow up action. In Japan, they want our cotton yarn, the spun of Indian MC-5 and Indian DC-832. Australian cotton is more lengthy than our cotton. It has got 40 mm; but, they do not want the yarn out of it. Naturally, we have got

some excellent quality in our soil which helps our Indian cotton to be attracted by the foreigners.

Just two or three days back, I saw in the paper an news item saying that they are going to put a cotton cess and cotton yarn cess and give it to handloom weavers. Such a policy, I think, will never be successful. It may help some of the handloom weavers; but, it will not help prosper the handloom industries. Now, it is the stage to protect the handloom weaving and not to prosper the handloom weaving.

Further, I congratulate Mr. Manmohan Singh for bringing five year tax-free power generation system. It is a bold thing. You have announced in the Budget, the five year tax-free power generation scheme. The Tamilnadu Government has appealed for Jayanguntam Lignite Programme which is, I thin, Rs. 1500 or Rs. 2000 crores scheme. So far, nothing has been done from the Central Government side, when the Chief Minister is interested. Tamilnadu is scarce of water; there is no hydel system; we have got only the thermal power system and the wind energy. The main infrastructure needed by India is power. Therefore, regarding the power generation, the Central Government's new scheme, the new idea to give five year tax-free is a welcome decision, to be welcomed by all. But, what about the follow up action? Now, we are in May 1993 and June is going to come. How many new projects under this scheme have been set up in the country? The country must know.

Therefore, I plead with the Government that there is no use merely announcing the new power generation scheme; the Central Government must come forward to take practical and pragmatic view and implement it.

Now-a-days we cannot waste time. We are having the Parliament to discuss the Finance Bill, with only ten or fifteen Members; we should not ask for quorum also. But see the time. The time factor is lagging. We Indians, are always failing in putting the time budget. Unless and until

[Sh. M.R. Kadambur Janarthanan]

we fix the money Budget with the time budget, we can never succeed. Therefore, the time budget is the main thing which is lagging in this hour, in the administration. Therefore, we must urge upon our bureaucrats to have a time-bound programme for the things to be done.

Then only, we can improve and see the year 2000. Otherwise, it will be a failure. How many crores of rupees will be spent, that does not matter. If we do not have time-bound things to be done, it will be a total failure. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANDI CHARANDAS (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to speak about the drawbacks, which I have noticed. I want to start from the point where the speaker before me has left. He has made a mention about time bound budget. I wish to attach the issue of time bound payment with it. The condition of the country is deteriorating due to not making time bound payment. You make late payments to every state and only the Government employees get their payment within 7 days and the rest of the persons get late payments which benefits the middlemen. Today, if a contractor gets late payment or a teacher gets his salary after 6 months he has to take loan at the rate of 3 to 10 per cent to settle his monthly bills. Even the situation in cities is more or less the same. The middlemen get benefit out of it. The contractor who runs a tribal hostel or school also do not get payments in time, as a result thereof he has to take loan on interest to purchase items. This affects the quality of the material and the food due to which the student's study is affected. If we are able to improve this situation then it will be in the interest of the nation.

One more point which I want to raise is about taxes. Today, you are granting concessions but in such a vast country if we do not put taxes then how can we get money to run the country. When there is a deficit budget, from the very beginning you adopt the policy of austerity which can be

seen in every sphere. You cannot make development like this. I do not ask you to raise the Income tax limit from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 50,000 instead you can make it Rs. 20,000. Because if someone earns money, he should not hesitate to pay a meagre amount as tax. Apart from salary, these people have many sources of income. Now the point is to see that how much money do these people pay to their house servants. When their servants demand more pay, they are beaten and by falsely implicating them, they get them arrested. This type of treatment is meted out to them. Therefore, I feel that there is no harm in imposing taxes. Because without getting money through taxes, we cannot make any expenditure but it is also important to return the amount which was taken as a loan.

I also want to state one more thing that we have assets like big dams and factories but the economic position of the poor is deteriorating. Why poor people cannot make progress?

If you calculate, you will find that 85 per cent of the budget amount is spent on cities. The money spent through P.W.D comes to cities only. That is why the artisans of rural areas migrate to cities. The fault in this regard lies with the Government as it is expanding the cities like anything. You tell them that if they want to construct a house in a village they will get nothing but if they wish to construct it in a city they will get land etc. for it. The Government takes the whole responsibility in this regard. That is why people are migrating to the cities. For instance you may take the schemes of Indira Vikas Patra of mutual Fund, the people in cities are getting richer by these schemes but in villages there is nothing. As per my knowledge a peon in a city deposited Rs. 10-15 lakh in a stock exchange. The officers also prosper by merely making a call that certain shares shall be booked in their names and without investing anything they get a lot of money. You cannot prepare a scheme for villagers. The nationalisation of banks was a welcome step during Smt. Indira Gandhi's period. But what is the position at present? Suppose you wish to start a company. You approach a bank and after fulfilling certain formalities you get a loan immediately. Many organisations, which

provide loans, on plainly refuse to give loan. Later on, they tell them that after paying a certain amount as bribe they may get a loan. Hence, they grant you a loan and cut their commission which throws the situation out of order. Neither we could enjoy the fruits of socialism nor of capitalism. The villagers are more affected due to a mixed economy, as there is no money circulation in the rural areas. There are the people who are instrumental in providing food and constructing buildings for us but till date you have not done anything for them.

21.00hrs.

I would like to suggest that something need to be done to win the confidence of the poor and to improve their financial position. Shares of NALCO were allotted to the public and for the company the land of the tribals was acquired. However, some shares of NALCO should have also been allotted to the tribals to improve their financial position. Therefore, there is the need to change this system to improve the financial position of the tribals and also they should have some assets to bank upon. Recently IDBI launched a scheme under which an amount of Rs.2500 is to be deposited and after 25 years this amount will grow to Rs. one lakh. Had the Government diverted some portion of the funds reserved for IRDP and other schemes for issuing one bond each to the poor, then real development would have definitely taken place, in place of giving concessions to them. All the schemes are formulated and implemented by the IAS officers and other senior officers even then they take the plea that a particular scheme is not feasible. For the development of the poor schemes need to be formulated and also shares need be allotted to them. However, no such schemes are being formulated.

21.01 hrs.

[MR. TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

Funds are spent on the people living below the poverty line. I asked a question in the House

that how many persons living below the poverty line have been brought above the poverty line. The Government replied that no such survey has been conducted. I have been a Member of Parliament for many terms. I hail from the rural areas and therefore have witnessed that despite all the expenditures on poverty removal schemes not a single person has crossed the poverty line. One of my hon. colleague submitted that all incentives need be given to the poor to start industries. You very well know that in production some risks are also involved. Therefore, how can the poor start industries. Only the persons with black money come forward to start industries and they also have access to the market for funds. Persons devoid of money can do nothing. No such study has been conducted in this regard by the Government. Many schemes launched in the country will have to be discontinued. A new scheme has been started by the Government. Therefore, let us see whether it will be implemented or not? We were debating upon this thing that under one single department at present many Public Undertakings are functioning and all of these are incurring losses. One undertaking pays Rs.3000 per month as salary while the other pays more. Just look at the private sector that how it is making profits. However, even though the Public Undertakings are running in loss yet the officers are accumulating huge assets. But, in private sector such things are not allowed because the principle followed is loss is to be borne by everyone. Therefore, retrenchment is widely seen in the private sector. Same criterion need be followed in public sector too. However, this is not being done in the public sector. The Government's money is going down the drain. Raid the residential premises of the corrupt officials. I would like to suggest that verification need be done, instead of search, each year to verify the means and sources of acquiring property and other assets. Officials need not be shy of getting their assets verified. Though no doubt search is objectionable. Therefore, searches need to be stopped. Number of income tax payees keeps on increasing every 3 years. Therefore, verification is a must. Is it not the

[Sh. Anandi Charan Das]

Government's duty to check misappropriation of national wealth? Therefore, such an arrangement is the need of the hour. Only if this is done progress is possible.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I fail to understand that why in the Transport Committee it was mentioned that from the World Bank loan is being taken for the construction of roads? Therefore, will not the interest be charged on the money from the citizens of this country? Subsidy amount is increasing fast and even then maximum expenditure is being incurred on oil account. Why are the licenses being issued for two wheelers and other smaller vehicles? Our country is large. However, the poor are not sharing the fortunes. Vehicles for rich will only increase oil expenditure. Then the foreign exchange will have to be shelled out for importing oil. The money shelled out will be of the poor only. Poor cannot afford good cloth and good diet. If tax dragnet is not widened then nation to my mind will suffer. Then, how will the poor live?

[English]

They are tax-payers.

[Translation]

I will take one more minute only. This is the reason why such a day has come that we have been forced to ponder over all this. I neither support nor do I disapprove this Bill. As per my experience I do not think that all that the Government is doing will be of any benefit. We are people's representatives and hail from the rural areas too. However, money is not circulating in the rural areas. Why is this happening? I fail to understand the benefits of introducing new and new methods for augmenting circulation of money. Why the Government does not spend money on increasing awareness. It is stated that the nation is passing through the economic crisis. Then, why wasteful expenditure is not being checked?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will conclude my speech by making one more point. Rural poor should also have their share if the nation is to really progress as India is a poor country. With these words I neither support this Bill nor do I disapprove the Bill.

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Batasore):

Mr. Chairman, I am very much grateful to you for calling me to speak on the Finance Bill. I rise to support the Finance Bill and request the hon. Members of this House to support it also.

I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for taking steps to stabilise our economy of the country; and for that, everybody should cooperate. But our people are not in a position to cooperate.

The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi told, it is not too late to amend the matters provided we forsake selflessness, adopt selfishness, abandon fear, cease to be hypocrite, become honest, upright, moral and truthful.

Though the hon. Members of the opposition parties, within their hearts support the steps taken by the Finance Minister, yet they are speaking against this Finance Bill. This is the position. But everybody should cooperate, everybody should be free from hypocrisy. This Government under the leadership of our hon. Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao has saved this country and tried to stabilise the economy of this country.

Our economy totally depends on agriculture. Two-third income of the country is derived from the agriculture. Those who are speaking against the Finance Bill, against the policies of this Government, they should first realise what is India.

India is the Seventh largest country of the world. It covers an area of 32,87,263 sq. kms., from Himalayas upto the southern part, the

tropical rain forest area. This country is the Tenth industrialised country of the world and it is sixth in the world's space conquering countries.

The population of this country is ten times the population of Australia, that is one continent. Its population is now 84, crores, 432 million. Its population is larger than the population of Japan but in literacy we could not succeed, could not give proper literacy to our people. So attention should be given first to literacy.

Today it has been discussed on the floor of the House in the Question Hour that 52.11 per cent people are literate of which 63.86 per cent are males and 39.42 per cent are females. At this critical juncture the population is high, area is large and climatic situation is very tropical. In this situation what would be the economy, it should be borne in mind?

Before this Government came to power, in this country was going to dark. 248 quintals of gold were mortgaged. This fact is well known to the hon. Members. This Government, when it is trying to give political stability to the country, these parties are not supporting it. Economic stability depends on the political stability and without political stability economic stability could not be possible. Some members of opposition parties especially the BJP are trying to destabilise the Government.

Their sole attempt, or their sole goal is, to come to power. Sir, that is why from the very beginning our hon. Finance Minister had sought the cooperation of all members.

An author has rightly mentioned that:-

"The Finance Minister has rightly raised his hand of friendship in behaviour, partnership in the country's progress and fellow feeling towards achieving the task of building a new nation where poverty will be a thing of the past, progress will be part and parcel of our thinking and servitude and deprivation will be a sad experience of the

days gone by."

This should be the attitude. Our hon. Finance Minister appealed to the hon. Members of this House and they should fully cooperate.

One thing, I can quote here also about the liberation policy or the economic policy, that has been carried from the time of hon. Pandit Nehru and I quote:

"However, credit must be given to Rajiv Gandhi for having offered the first phase of liberalisation of the economy following a realisation and admission that our policies had not proved fruitful. Though this process policies had not proved fruitful. Though this process was halted and reversed during the brief interregnum of the National Front Government under the Prime Ministership of V.P. Singh, when the Nehruvian and social elements prevailed and brought back the old ideology of shibboleths, with the coming into power of the Congress-I and the pragmatic outlook on economic issues favoured by P.V. Narasimha Rao, liberalisation, in spite of its rightist and reactionary connotations, has been rightly adopted and decided upon. Indeed, the time had come for a frank re-appraisal of the Nehruvian economic model and where it had landed us for and for a true reversal by removing the shackles and controls and constraints and integrate ourselves with the global economy."

One thing is, the Congress policy of economy is being carried on since Pandit Nehru's time and if somebody criticises it, it does not matter. But ours is a country, a poor country where resources are very much available but we are not fully exploiting those resources. That is why, our motto should be administrative reforms. Without administrative reforms we cannot bring any change in the Indian economy.

Earlier, I had talked to our hon. Prime Minister about a Project Officer under the DRDA programme in Koraput District of Orissa, who has swallowed Rs.2 crore. An inquiry was held.

it was substantiated and action was also taken. He was suspended. But later on due to some mala fide intentions of the Orissa Government his suspension has been lifted. How can we bring any change in the Indian economy of this is the attitude of the officers?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: I may be permitted to speak for at least 15 minutes more because I will bring some new vision to the Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already spoken for 13 minutes.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Now, we can very well imagine how radical changes are brought to our economy!

The radical change is that the fiscal deficit has been reduced to 4.7 per cent due to liberalisation in economic policy. But the present procedure of passing the Bills should be changed. The hon. Shri A.C. Das has told one thing. 31st March is the target date for passing the Budget. But before that there are no concrete expenditure. The peak period is from March to June. We could not spend money and it has been deposited in P.L. Account. In all States, this is the practice. This practice should be changed. It is my earnest request to the hon. Finance Minister that he should bring in some radical change. It should be made, at least 30th June. This is the peak period. The money allotted to the States should be properly spent and the utilisation should be brought from them. After that, the Budget should be passed. And during the rainy season, there should be some sort of planning. After that, it can be executed. Money should be spent. This should be there. Otherwise, there should not be any fiscal change. We will have to go in for a sort of administrative reforms. There were Administrative Reforms Commission's Report. But our Government has not gone into that

report. That should be reviewed. Some good suggestions and good ideas should be picked up from that report and they should be incorporated in practice. For example, your Ministry of Finance. It is responsible for the administration for finance of the Government. It regulates expenditure of the Government including transfer of resources to the States. This Ministry comprises three main Departments, namely, Economic Affairs; Expenditure; and Revenue. There are sub-departments also. All those there is Scam scandal. Everybody knows what is Scam scandal. How money was diverted everywhere in the country, that is well known to this country.

If money is sanctioned for a purpose or allotted to a State for a certain purpose, then it should not be diverted to another purposes. For example, the drought prone areas of certain Districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir, Koraput and Sambalpur of Orissa. If money is provided to these Districts, why is that area being striven with starvation deaths and why did the people sell their child? This should be noted. Money has been provided and sanctioned by the Central Government. But that money has been diverted. Who is looking after this? We have raised several questions in regard to this. I had indicated in my speech that the money provided for vocational education has been diverted. It could not be spent. Similarly, money earmarked for drought prone areas has been diverted in Orissa, regularly. After 46 years of our independence, we are now still witnessing starvation deaths regularly in Kalahandi District. If you see the record of Parliament, you will find that since more than a decade, this question is coming up.

This should be totally stopped. Here, I want to say something. Sometimes, ideology and political expediency are simultaneously moving together.

At the time of Janata regime, it was declared that Rs. 10,000/- loan of agriculturists will be waived. Now, in Orissa, no loan is being waived by the present Government though they had

earlier assured. I quote:

"The turmoil during the Rajiv Gandhi's regime was replaced by a transition period of V.P. Singh and Chandra Shekhar combine which too proved to be too short-lived to be commented upon. The personality-based programmes were more debated and argued than issued-based policies, so much so that the unimaginative approach of collective responsibility caught havoc with the country's administrative and economic machinery. The transitory period came to an end with the arrival of P. V. Narasimha Rao and his team consisting of men of political prudence and mental maturity devoid of any economic ideology or political expediency, who assumed the reins of the country's destiny and though not as per the promises made in the manifesto, Rao began well with all the sincerity of purpose and honesty of initiative barring, of course, a few storms in the tea-cup in the initial stages and the social, economic and fiscal policies took off successfully from the point where Rajiv Gandhi had left them.

I would humbly point out that the Members have come to Parliament to do something for our voters who are starved, who have no clothes to wear, who have no money to send their children in the schools and who have no money to buy medicines even. But, how the money is being spent right and left without caring for the fate of the poor people of this country. Nobody is doing anything. That is why, we submit here that united funds should be released in the hands of the hon. Members. They have come with the votes of poor sections of the country. They can provide tubewell where there is no tubewell. They can provide money for the construction of a road, where there is no road and they can also provide money where there is no building of a school. This money should be properly utilised so that it can reach the poorer section of the society.

The hon. Minister of Finance must be aware that all the Members of this House submitted this proposal. But, in the Budget Speech of the hon. Finance Minister, he did not utter a single word

over this. This is a shame to the Minister of Finance. He should declare immediately because this money should be utilised for the poorest sections of our country.

With these few words, I thank you and my colleagues. I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilaur):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Finance Bill- 1993-94. It is the third Finance Bill presented by the hon. Minister of Finance. During the last election the Congress party had promised to bring down the prices within 100 days. At the time of by election in one of the constituencies in Delhi. The Congress candidate had promised to get the income tax limit raised to Rs. 60,000. Big posters and banners were published and advertisements were released to this effect. But he cheated the people who had supported him only on such assurances. However, no income tax limit has been increased. Last year, the hon. Minister of Finance had mentioned to withdraw the surcharge on income tax. A number of the members of Congress party as well as those of our party gave suggestions in this regard. Time is short. Therefore, not going into the details, I would like to give a few suggestions in this regard to the hon. Minister.

My first suggestion is that the income tax limit must be raised to Rs. 50,000. People at large are disappointed due to the non fulfilment of the promise to this effect. Secondly, as the hon. Minister of Finance had mentioned last year the surcharge on income tax should be withdrawn. He has referred to it again in his Budget speech this time. However he has pointed out that it won't be possible for the Government to do so at present. This surcharges should be withdrawn.

At the same time, I would like the Government to reduce the rate of income tax, particularly applicable on personal income. The Government should realise the practical difficulties being

[Sh. Shyam Bihari Misra]

faced by the common masses and particularly the traders and small entrepreneurs these days. There is a rule under the same Act according to which if the amount exceeds RS. 10,000 the payment should be made through cheque or draft. Whereas banks refuse to issue draft on the plea that they are short of staff. The efficiency of the staff has also deteriorated. It takes a long time to get the cheques cleared from the clearance house. This is causing a lot of inconvenience to the common masses. Therefore my submission is that either the rule to this effect should be abolished or the limit of payment through cheque should be increased from Rs. 10,000 to rupees one lakh. The hon. Minister of Finance during his Budget speech has welcomed the recommendations of Chellaiah Committee in the Finance Bill and expressed a gratitude. But this respect is confined only to speeches. These recommendations have been ignored in the Finance Bill. Not even 20 per cent of the recommendations made with regard to direct or indirect taxes have been implemented so far. I would like these recommendations to be followed as far as possible. I would also like to point out that change in the policy of import duty, and the increase in excise duty would rather discourage industrial development, all the hon. Members can very well imagine to what direction it would lead the industry. I would render the country not more than a grave yard.

Exemption of about Rs. 3 lakh 27 thousand and 300 has been given in customs duty while that of a very meagre amount of about only Rs. 1 lakh 24 thousand 900 in excise duty. The excise duty has been increased on certain items like molasses, tyres, tubes, rubber products, steel etc. Cotton Mills in the country have been running in loss. All the mills under NTC have also been meeting the similar situation. But instead of reducing excise duty on cotton cloth the Government has reduced the import duty on cotton fabric from 110 per cent to 50 per cent. I would like the Government to reduce the excise duty particularly on cotton cloth so that the sick

cotton mills may get some incentives and revive. Similarly, though the import duty on mechanical and technical equipments has been reduced, yet it is inadequate. At the same time import duty should not be reduced on consumer goods. Excise duty on these items should be reduced so as to encourage the industries to increase the production of consumer goods.

It would provide employment to innumerable people in the country. I would also like to submit that the Government has levied extra excise duty on cloth, sugar and tobacco in place of sales tax. A committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Pandit Kamalapati Tripathi in 1980, and it was asked to give suggestions with a view to streamline the whole system. Shri Tripathi had recommended to impose additional excise duty on five items at the initial stage to exclude them from the range of sales tax. These included medicines, petroleum products, Vanaspati and cement. But where the report to that effect has been kept is not known to anybody till today. This report was never discussed. My suggestion is that the power to impose excise duty in lieu of additional sales tax should be endowed to the State Governments so that they may exclude those items on which excise duty is levied by the Central Government from the range of sales tax. This would boost the trade and industry in the country.

The Government earn 76 per cent of the total revenue by means of tax and the remaining 24 per cent is borrowed. I would like to submit that in view of the prevailing economic condition of the country and the fact that a huge amount goes in paying interest with regard to expenditure items, we should repay about 26 per cent amount from the total income. The more we reduce the debt, the more balanced the Budget would be. I would also help to reduce the deficit in Budget.

The Chellaiah Committee had recommended to reduce the corporate tax to 40 per cent by 1985-86. The Government should pay attention to this matter. So far as import duty and excise duty are concerned, these have proved a booster

for the multinational companies. We are not tootally agaist the multinational companies, but we do want specific sectors to be earmarked for such companies such as mining, petroleum, shipping, internal assistance, medicines for chronic diseases and medical equipments for treatment, heavy engineering etc. But these multinational companies should not be provided any protection with regard to Indian consumer goods. There is a saying that a prophet is not honoured in his own land. The Government of India seem to prove it true. This country is inhabited by about 85 crore people and they are the only means through which this country is identified. In a democracy, the Government works for the welfare of the people of the country. If the people are rendered helpless, shelterless and unemployed, the country can neither become strong nor it can become self-reliant. Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to pay attention to this matter and makes such a provision with which domestic industries can be encouraged to produce consumer goods leaving aside some selected sectors for multinational companies.

So, far as the income of the Government concerned, income tax constitutes just 6 per cent of the total income. The rules of income tax are so complicated that a common tax payer faces many difficulties. Heavy tax payers manage to engage experts and advocates, however, the rules need to be simplified for the small tax payer an average business man, small scale industrialists or less educated man. The hon. minister of Finance should review the situation in this regard and find out a solution so that common tax payer does not find any difficulty in filling the form and depositing it in the office. Today, the rules to this effect are so complicated that a common tax payer cannot even fill up the prescribed form without the legal advice of an advocate. That is why there is a need to streamline the system.

Before I conclude, I would like to mention one thing more. Just now, my preceding speaker alleged in between the discussion on the Finance Bill that BJP has been giving rise to instability

in the country. It is not the subject of the Finance Bill.

It appears tht the hon. Members of the ruling party and the non-BJP Opposition and other hon. Members, see BJP even in their dreams. The discussion is going on the Finance Bill and the hon. Member is making allegation that the BJP is spreading anarchy in the country. I would like to submit that there was no anarchy in BJP-ruled States, rather the cases of bomb blasts took place in Bombay, Ahmedabad and Calcutta or the incidents of plane-hijacking were taking place in the country but no worker of BJP was found involved in those cases. It is not proper to make such allegations and at such a place, where it has a no meaning. Wherever there are BJP workers or the BJP Governments, the atmosphere had always remained peaceful. I would even say that if the present Government has foreseen any danger, it should hand over the power ot BJP for some time, and then they will see which Government can maintain peace and harmony in the country.

With these words, I thank you for allowing me to speak.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, I oppose this Bill presented here by the hon. Finance Minister on several grounds. He has certainly realised that there were some mistakes in the Budget he had presented last year, but he is so adamant that he has not rectified those mistakes properly.

Sir, first of all, I would like to submit that the Finance Minister was greatly applauded for raising the minimum limit of income tax to Rs. 30 thousand. It is nothing but a drop in the ocean. As the purchasing power of rupee is continuously decreasing, the minimum limit of income tax should have been fixed at least at Rs. 50,000. The working class, which has a fixed income and the ordinary tax-payers and businessmen, all had hoped that the hon. Finance Minister will honour this public sentiment and will rectify his mistakes. But the God did not grant him that much wisdom

[Sh. Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

and I, therefore, do not support this Budget. This budget tends to rob the pockets of middle class people.

Sir, the Government had constituted the Raja Chelliah Committee to make the system of direct taxes more rational and effective. The Committee had recommended that more people should be covered under direct-taxes and the Government has accepted this recommendation. Even though all the political parties and different classes of the society had an unanimous opinion on raising of Income-Tax limit, the Government has increased the minimum limit of Income-Tax only by Rs.2000. The Chelliah Committee had made another recommendation that income tax rates should be lowered, which will in turn check the generation of black money. The recommendation was ignored. The Committee had suggested that rate of income tax on maximum income should not be more than 40 per cent. Acceptance of this recommendation would have effectively controlled the generation of black-money in our country, but I would like to allege that under pressure of some vested interests, the Government does not want to check this problem in the country. If the Government has the will power and really wants to check the generation of black-money, it can do so by lowering the rates of income-tax, making direct taxes more rational and by increasing the minimum limit of income-tax.

Sir, besides this, I would like to say something about social set up also. In the last years Budget, the Finance Minister had taken a very independent step by clubbing the income of the adult children with the higher income of their mother or father, while fixing the rate of income-tax on total income. He raised the minimum limit of income-tax which shows that he was aware of his mistake. But in the present context, he did not realise his mistake. I think he should consider the suggestions of the economists of our country. The income of adult children should not be clubbed with the income of their parents. But he

did not rectify this mistake. It is illogical to club the income of adult children with the income of their mother or father, whoever earns more. This provision should be withdrawn. I would like to submit that the system of joint Hindu family in our country is a very strong medium of providing social protection, social justice and social encouragement to man. But since the Congress Party has come to power, it is making efforts to destroy the very social set up of joint Hindu family. That is why, the minimum limit of income-tax was not increased in the case of joint Hindu family. The Government is not able to provide protection to the joint Hindu family, which is a strong medium of providing social protection to the old, widows, handicapped, unemployed and people affected by other problems and is creating new problems by destroying this ancient set up.

Regarding savings, I would like to submit that the limit of tax exemption on savings is shown as Rs.7000 to Rs.10000 which is not sufficient. Actually, last year this limit was RS.12000, which was decreased to Rs.7000. Late on he realised his mistake, but he did not rectify it with full honesty and increased the limit by Rs.10000 only. This is not at all a commendable work. As a result, in comparison to last year, there has been a decrease in the savings money in several States this year and the policy of the Government to take loans on those savings and use the money in development works, has got a set back. The State Governments also used to get savings money, development funds and other profits, but now they are deprived of these funds. I, therefore, would like to request that if the savings amount cannot be increased, at least the exemption limit should be increased to Rs.12000 as was done in the last year's Budget.

I would like to submit a few words about Dunkel proposals. It is going to have an adverse impact on our economy. By decreasing the import duty the Government has opened doors for the import of foreign goods. Just now, our friend was telling about it. Very little exemption has been given in the excise duty. In comparison to the exemption given in import duty, the

exemption given in excise duty is insufficient. The policy of the Budget should be that there is increase in the internal production, rates of essential commodities should remain under control and internal products can compete in the world market. In order to ensure these things, the Budget imposes indirect taxes. But today the situation is just reverse. The policy which has been adopted today is encouraging export, increasing the rates of consumer goods and discouraging export, increasing the rates of consumer goods and discouraging our goods from competing in the world market. As a result, we could not achieve our export target and the gap between import and export is widening. No steps have been taken in this Budget to fill this gap and there is no such possibility in future also. Funds are being collected from the NRIs and loans are being taken from the World Bank and IMF and the people of this country are being told that the crisis of foreign exchange has been overcome. I would like to submit that until we increase our indigenous production, we cannot achieve self-reliance. The economy of this country cannot be improved, until we balance import-export through our production. It appears that we are truly following the saying of Rishi Charvak "Yawat Jivet, Sukham Jivet, Rinam Kritwa, Ghritam Pivet".

Mr. Chairman, Sir this is an adhoc Government and due to this adhocism it has forsaken the long term interests of the country. It thinks that it should take full advantage of power during this period and neglect the long term interests of the country, but in this way they are playing with the economy of our country.

I would also like to say that planning is not being made properly. It is being influenced by some foreign forces. Accordingly, the tax structure which has been developed, it will not benefit the country. To recover and control the black money, the Government has to rationalise the system of excise duty and to provide adequate relief so that indigenous small scale industries could prosper and stand in competition of multinational companies. The Government should

develop such a structure as may renovate the economy of the country. If we would be able to put our economy on sound footing, only then it can survive and improve. I was just reading that there has been an increase in prices of gold. The Government has made an effort to increase the import of gold. But all the efforts made by the Government are facing a situation of failure due to Hawala market. The Government had formulated some schemes keeping in view the future investment of N.R.Is. But all dreams of getting foreign exchange are being shattered. There is an apprehension that it will cause a heavy shortfall in the foreign exchange investment to be done by N.R.Is in the coming years and current year due to Hawala market. The Government has not taken effective steps to check the creation of black money. The steps taken by the Government have been proved futile.

I would like to say one thing in regard to companies. Dual taxation is being imposed on companies. Owing to it injustice is being done to companies. It is not justified to impose tax on the companies and simultaneously on the partners of the companies. Such sort of taxation amounts to dual taxation. There must be one kind of taxation instead of two kinds of taxation. I am told if finished goods of telecom equipment are imported in finished form, counter valuing duty is not imposed. If we import telecom parts or equipments, counter valuing duty is imposed. Apart from it, if finished goods are produced in the country after developing, then excise duty and sales tax are imposed on it. In this manner, if small entrepreneurs through importing telecom parts and equipments, produce these things in the country itself dual tax is imposed on them. If they import finished goods in finished form, it is not imposed on them. It shows that the Government is playing with the economy, artisans and labourers of the country. It should not happen. I have never seen such a worst example of encouraging import. We have to pay attention to it. In addition to it, as far as excise duty is concerned we have to restructure it. It has become inevitable. The working of the Life

Insurance Corporation has been such as it does not protect the interests of policy holders. Besides this, they are not getting facility of insurance on reasonable rates. Sometimes it is thought that it would better if the policy holder dies.

22.00 hrs.

In the beginning, it is O.K. He gets some benefits and social security. But a man who survives upto his age, he is looted openly by the Corporation. The rate of policy premium should be reduced in such cases. I have read in newspapers that the U.S.A. wants to encroach upon insurance business through Super 301. We have to struggle constantly to keep our economy in order. It would be harmful if the Government encourages or allows the entry of foreign companies in insurance field or other areas. We may allow them in limited areas only where Indian companies fail to manage the affairs.

No attempt should be made to bring Dunkel Proposals indirectly. The opening of doors for multinational companies in such a manner is in accordance with the Dunkel Proposals. It will affect the economy of the country. Indication has been given in respect of providing subsidy on fertilisers. The Minister of Finance will announce it. Agriculture is the back bone of economy of the country and maximum facilities should be provided to develop it. But no such provision or exemption has been made in the Budget. A little subsidy has been provided on fertilizers only. But it will not serve the purpose. Electricity, seeds and other facilities should be provided to farmers at cheaper rates. Only then the farmer would be able to produce foodgrains properly. Simultaneously the agro-based industries should be encouraged. In this regard, no mention has been made in the Budget. The country can march ahead if agro-based industry and labour oriented industry are promoted. But the same is not being provided in the Budget provisions. The Finance Bill does not contain any provision for unemployment allowance for unemployed people. That is why I oppose it. If we pass it, it will

increase unemployment, price of consumer goods and quantum of import. It will discourage export.

22.04 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

It will destroy the economy of the country rather I should say it has already destroyed the economy. To improve the economy of the country, the system of indirect taxes should be restructured in a scientific manner so that production could be increased in the country.

With these words, I oppose the Finance Bill and conclude.

SHRI HARCHAND SINGH (Ropar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation Bill on the Budget presented by Shri Manmohan Singh and would like to request the House to pass it. The best Budget introduced after forty years has been brought forward by Narsimha Rao Government. The unnecessary burden of taxes have been avoided to the maximum possible extent.

Secondly, earlier the method of mobilising funds was not proper. Now it has been rectified. In Punjab, 80 per cent revenue is mobilised and 20 per cent of the total amount is pocketed by the employees itself. Haryana collects 100 per cent whereas U.P. contributes 5 per cent and 95 per cent of the total amount of collection is pocketed by the employees itself. That is why the Government of B.J.P. comes into power. Nobody pays tax there. When the B.J.P. is in power, the people have not to pay taxes. Anyway it is not a new thing. But my suggestion is that the collection of taxes should be done in proper way. Secondly how the money should be spent? The Budget provisions may be made judiciously. I mean to say that whatever provision has been made for Harijans it should be spent properly. Today 45 years have passed since the independence. There are two Balmiki Harijan localities in Patiala. Not even a single inch of land is lying vacant. There houses were there. The room in which two persons lived, now 10-12 persons

have been living in the same room. Nobody has paid any attention to them. Now it is the duty of the Congress party to contribute for their welfare as it fetches cent per cent votes from there. In Punjab, 80 per cent or 1 crore 60 lakh people live in the villages. There are two categories of the people—zamindar and agricultural labourers. 45 years ago, the agricultural labourers used to do manual work of Zamindar and he is doing the same job even today. Therefore, the Congress has done nothing for them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are 13,500 villages in Punjab. How many Harijan children go to schools? When he becomes 6 years old, he is sent to the house of Zamindar to do manual work. How can he devote time for study when he is not earning his livelihood? I would like to urge upon the Government particularly Shri P. V. Narsimha Rao to make some provisions in the Budget for their welfare. Today Harijans have no land and no money to purchase house for themselves. The Government has made provision only in favour of Zamindars and made them prosperous.

Only agricultural labourers work in the fields in Punjab. The agricultural production there now is for more than that used to be during the period of princely states.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in October, 1956 Pt. Govin Ballabh Pant brought about Land Reforms in Punjab and fixed the land-ceiling at 30 acre. Now this land-ceiling has been fixed at 17 acres of land. Nobody possesses land more than this limit in Punjab. Before the Independence the landlords had lakhs of acres of land in their possession. Now the land is taken away from landlords and is being distributed among the poor. My submission is that in Punjab the Harijans do not have money to purchase even one 'Biswa of Land'. Therefore, funds should be provided to them. I would like to suggest that when the hon. Prime Minister goes on a visit to Punjab he may be shown the two areas of Patiala district where 12-12 boys and girls are living in a house. The Harijans in Punjab should be provided loans so

that they could be able to build houses to live in a proper way. But this Congress Government thinks only in terms of vote bank and do not want to give them anything. It has not given any kind of assistance till date. It has provided neither houses, land nor funds. Since they are not educated, how can they get jobs?

The Harijans students there should get stipend from Class I. After Maharaja Patiala Shri Brishbhanji the Chief Minister of Punjab had given stipends to Harijan students from Class I. Now the Government has discontinued that too. Now the provision of the stipend is from class VIII to X. But the question is whether they can continue their studies upto class VIII or X. They are not even able to join school. Therefore, the Government is urged to allocate some funds for those people to enable them to construct their houses, breeding cattle, and educating their children.

With these words I thank you for providing me an opportunity to express views.

[English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNADES (Udupi): Sir, I thank you for calling me to speak. While I would like to support this Bill and thank the Government for bringing in a number of relieving measures to improve our economy, I feel that adequate provisions have to be made to improve the agriculture sector. I did not get the opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture, so, permit me to speak one or two points with regard to agriculture as well.

About 70 per cent of our people are depending on agriculture but the rural folk still continues to be poor. Water management is one of the main items on which we have to concentrate so that the farmer will be able to get maximum out of his efforts. In the banking sector there were days when for the asking of it our people were getting adequate financial support to start self-employment ventures or for that matter any rural development programme. But today, sadly, our

[Sh. Oscar Fernandes]

youth are not getting the same facilities in the banking sector. I think the Government should bestow its attention on this particular aspect. Even under the IRDP Scheme or Government sponsored Self-employment Scheme whenever our people go to banks they do not get adequate finance, or no finance at all resulting in the lapse of subsidies that are made available to unemployed youths. The Government should be able to tell us why in this is happening. When Government is setting apart huge sums to give as subsidies, our people are not getting the matching finance from the banking industry. This is considered to be a priority sector but youths are not able to get the finance not to speak of getting governmental employment. When the youths are coming forward to start their own employment ventures, if adequate support is not given by the financial institutions, I think it will be very difficult for us to solve the unemployment problem of this country.

Similarly, Sir, in the fishery sector, which is one of the sectors where there is so much of potential that even people from other countries come and fish in our waters. If we are able to help our fishermen in deep sea fishing and develop aquaculture as well, more than the money that we are going to invest a number of jobs will be created for the unemployed youths. We will also be able to earn in terms of foreign exchange because the marine products have a world wide demand. Though we have explored this area, we have not invested adequately in this sector.

When the country's food grains production is on the increase, Sir, it is high time that we convert coarse grains to feed the animals and produce milk, eggs, meat which can be used for export. Even in the aqua-culture, feed can be used for developing fisheries. This could be exported.

Sir, our country, with the agricultural background, need not put all the money to

concentrate only on high-tech areas. Even in these agricultural areas, where our farmer is capable of absorbing the technology and producing more, if we are able to export certain items, we can import as well.

Sir, there is a feeling that we cannot sustain as a country without external support. We have survived as a country for the last 500 years. There are areas in our country, where we do not see animal power used in cultivation. This is the situation. There are areas in our country where we do not see even a single kilo of chemical fertilizer being used in agriculture. That being the case, it is high time that even in agriculture, we concentrate on these areas and see that the yield is improved, with the result that the country will benefit and the farmer also will benefit.

Sir, adequate amount of Rs. 30,000 crore has been provided for rural development. It is not mere money that is required, a proper mechanism to monitor and find out whether the money is really reaching the beneficiaries and how it is being utilised has to be properly monitored, that is required.

Further, Sir, I am happy that the Government has allocated about Rs. 12,000 crore for Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. This money has to be utilised to see that the real wealth is created in the rural areas. Many a time, this money is spent in such schemes where wealth is not generated or the money is really wasted. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to see that wherever Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is implemented, wealth is created in the rural areas. For a long time, we have been talking about Ganga-Cauvery project. My information is that, it may not be possible to implement the original scheme talked of by Dr. K.L. Rao. However, there are other schemes whereby different rivers could be linked and the surplus water could be utilised in the country.

I urge upon the Government to see that a sizeable amount out of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is utilised for this purpose so that the real asset is created in the country.

Sir, with these few words, I support this Bill.

Thank you once again for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

SHRIBALRAJ PASSI (Nainital): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the expectations of the people that they had in the Budget presented prior to this Finance Bill have not been fulfilled. On the contrary, the hon. Minister of Finance has posed a threat to the future of the indigenous industries by giving wholesale immunities to the Multi-National Companies. The Britishers had come here with their East India Company. But the immunities provided to the multi-National Companies by the hon. Minister of Finance is causing the arrival of hundreds of such companies in this country. The activities of these Multi National Companies have posed a great threat to the indigenous companies. On the other hand, the Government is going to accept the Dunkel proposal which will have adverse effect directly on the common people because it will affect the farmers and the 85 per cent farmers of this country are crushed by this Dunkel proposal, the whole of the country will have to bear with its dire consequences.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been stated in the Budget that it will curb the rising prices, but virtually the hon. Minister of Finance has increased the prices of many commodities prior to the presentation of the Budget and even after its introduction, the prices are on the increase.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from time to time my party has not making demand to raise the income tax-exemption limit. This limit must be at least raised to Rs. 50 thousand. Once again I repeat this demand in this august House to raise the income tax-exemption limit upto Rs. 50 thousand, so that the ordinary employees, salaried classes may save some money and can get relief from the blow of price hike.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, crores of rupees are being lent from foreign countries. I cannot understand how can this amount will be paid off.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the subsidy on fertilisers has been abolished which has directly affected the farmers. The concession in price of insecticides has also been withdrawn. The prices of life saving drugs are also likely to rise on account of the Dunkel's Proposal. Therefore, excise duty should be abolished on all these commodities. If it is not possible the excise duty should be reduced.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, The Government has abolished subsidy on fertilisers. Now the Government must consider seriously to restore it, because the greatest problem before the farmers is that of water and electricity. Electricity and water are not made available to them. The rate of the fertilizers which he could have got on subsidised price, has increased many-fold and it has broken their back. On account of it the farmers have become totally helpless. Therefore, the farmers should get fertilizers on subsidised rates.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in regard to traders I would like to state that the sales tax system is very cumbersome. Ordinary traders do not hesitate to pay the sales tax, but that sale tax system should be simplified and streamlined and efforts should be made to bring about uniformity in sales-tax system in all the States of the country in a planned way.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have presented all these demands before the Government. It has been the long pending demand of our party to fix the income tax exemption limit at Rs. 50 thousand. I request this august House and the hon. Minister of Finance to raise this limit and not to accept the Dunkel's proposal at any cost and the subsidy abolished on fertilizers should be restored.

DR. G. L. KANAUIA (Kheri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot has been spoken on the Dunkel's proposal. I was surprised to note when

[Dr. G.L. Kanaujia]

our hon. Minister of Finance made a statement and stated it very seriously but when he was asked to give clarification about it, he did not give any clear-cut reply. I would like to give some suggestions because a lot has been spoken here.

[English]

The capital market is now in a very bad shape particularly because the reforms in corporate taxation have been postponed resulting in an adverse investors psyche. Therefore, the capital market is urgently needed to be revived. In this regard, the following suggestions are made:

The corporate tax rates should be brought down to 45 per cent immediately by abolishing the surcharge, and gradually reduced to 40 per cent by the assessment year 1995-96, as recommended by the Chelliah Committee. If India has to compete in international market the rates must be reduced as the trend is that of low rates of corporate tax rates all over the world.

Personal Income tax rates also need to be reduced to the maximum of 35 per cent.

As regards capital gains tax, the basic exemption upto Rs. 15,000 should be restored. Further capital gains should be exemption from tax if sale proceeds of an asset is re-invested in new equity shares. A uniform rate of 10 per cent should be applied for both Non-resident Indians and Indian Resident taxpayers on capital gains derived from transfer of shares.

To encourage long term savings the limit of qualified amount of saving eligible for deduction us 88 should be removed. The rate of tax rebate needs also to be increased from 20 per cent to 25 per cent.

Amendments to section 129 E of the Customs Act, 1962 and Section 35 F of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1994.

Amendments proposed in the Budget to Section 129 E of the Customs Act and Section 35 F of the Central Excise Act will go against the

interest of the assessee because now in the case of litigation involving duty interest, stay application for pre-deposits have to be made before the Principal Collector, who will decide the case within a period of 45 days. Thus the effective period available to the assessee to file an appeal before the Appellate Collector is reduced to 45 days. Also, whether pre-deposit of duty interest is necessary or not will be determined by an executive authority rather than an Appellate authority. In the case of those appeals going before the Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT) the assessee will have to essentially deposit the amount before filing the appeal.

Coupled with the 1991 legislation on undue enrichment, now the customs and Central Excise assessee will have very limited chances of getting refunds. The assessee will have to pay the amount which will be blocked for a period of 3-4 years because of huge pendency in CEGAT. The Government has not given any reason for the proposed amendments. The amendments will be inequitable and against the principle of natural justice. These amendments need to be dropped.

Anomaly in Duty Structure

In an ideal situation the import duty structure should be a three tier one where raw materials will bear lowest rate of duty, components and intermediates a higher rate of duty and finished products a still higher duty. Such a three-tier system would encourage growth and diversification of indigenous industry. In the present Budget a number of anomalies have crept in where finished product duty is lower than intermediate and raw-material duty.

This will go against the interests of the economy and the possibility of dumping will increase. All the cases of such anomalies have to be looked into and necessary notifications should be issued to maintain a three-tier system of import duty.

With the scaling down of the tariff wall and

liberalisation in the trade policy, the chance of dumping has become a reality. On a number of products the international prices are lower in comparison with indigenously produced goods, because of the uneconomic size of the units, high cost of infrastructure, high interest rate, etc. The Government should take immediate action wherever instances of dumping are reported both in the matter of investigation and imposition of duty. Also, as suggested by the Chelliah Committee, in case there is a substantial fall in international prices, a 25 per cent regulatory duty should be imposed so that the domestic industry gets a chance to adjust itself to the new situation. Otherwise, the domestic industry will be ruined.

I will suggest in this connection that whatever is going to be done, should be done taking into consideration the investment, duties taxes and lands decided by the other countries as their earnings. It is found that excise duties and interest rates are much higher in our country, particularly income-tax as compared to other countries. So, I will suggest to the hon. Finance Minister to reconsider it and do justice with the salaried class and business class people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri S. B. Nyamagouda.

SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA (Bagalkot): I do

not like to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rama Krishna Konathala?

SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA (Anakapalli): No.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Viswanatham Kanithi?

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI (Srikakulam): No.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What about Shri Manoranjan Bhakata?

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): No.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is an offer to speak but there is no acceptance.

Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at eleven o'clock tomorrow morning.

22.33 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, May 5, 1993/
Vaisakha 15, 1915 (Saka)*